

Waves

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners

www.hickoryhillslake.com

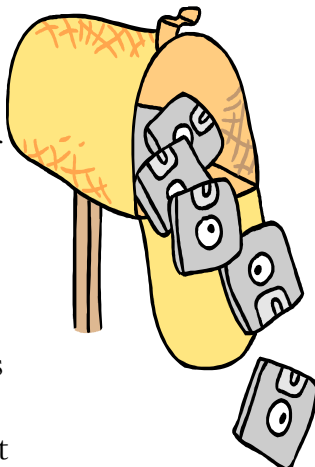
978-582-6365

Winter 2011



INTRODUCING WAVES BY EMAIL!

We're excited to offer all residents an opportunity to help make the most of your Annual Fees by giving you the option of receiving the WAVES through email. By staying signed up, you'll not only be helping save trees, you'll be helping us offer better existing services as well as the possibility of additional lake services! If you'd like to opt-out of the WAVES-by-Email program at any time, and



continue receiving the WAVES in your mailbox, please send an email to the office letting us know at hickoryhills@net1plus.com. You'll only receive the WAVES via email if the office has your email address and you have not opted out as described above. Thanks for helping making the most of our budget and doing your part to save some trees & most importantly saving the lake and YOU over \$2,700 ever year!

SAVE THE DATE FOR A TASTE OF NEW ORLEANS!!!

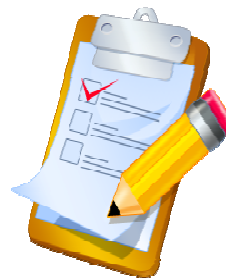
The Lake Management Group is at it again with another great fundraising event! The last event, "A Taste of Italy" was a big hit, with great food, music, a 50/50 raffle with prizes and more and they're planning the same great time New Orleans style! Currently, they're accepting donations for the raffle so please donate and mark Saturday, April 30th on your calendar; then bring your appetite for a fun time with friends and neighbors at a local venue to be announced soon. Tickets will be \$15.00 for adults and \$7.50 for kids under 12. For more information please contact Betty MacDonald at 978-582-7474 or email Betty at davebettymacdonald@comcast.net



HHL GOALS for FY10-11

The BOD wanted to share the aggressive goals they have defined for this fiscal year and with everyone's help we hope to reach them.

1. Re-evaluate and re-organize our Committees
2. Improve electronic presence (website)
3. Dam spillway planning – new five year plan
4. Formulate training procedures for the EAP
5. Establish a procedure for boat access to the lake
6. Increase resident participation by increasing Shareholder base by 10%





Overview of Massachusetts' Recreation Vehicle Laws

The following activities are prohibited in accordance with Massachusetts's recreation vehicle laws. For the complete law refer to Massachusetts General Law, [Chapter 90B](#) (Sections 20-35) and 323 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 3.00

Operating under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Operating on public ways or upon the right-of-way limits of a controlled access highway.

Failure to come to a complete stop when crossing a public way (must yield to motor vehicle traffic). No person under 16½ years of age shall operate across a public way.

Operating so as to endanger any person or property.

Operating at an unreasonable, improper, and unsafe speed for existing conditions.

Operating on land of another without permission of the owner. (Permission may be given to an individual or group).

Operating within 150 feet of an occupied residence without permission of the owner unless operating on the property of another for which permission has been granted.

Operating in a manner so as to harass or chase wildlife or domestic animals.

Operating on a wetland such as a bog, marsh, or swamp so as to destroy or damage the wetland, if such area has been designated and posted as a protected wetland area.

Operating in Wildlife Management Areas.

Visit <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dle/323cmr30.pdf> to view the full MA law.

HHL Office Winter Hours

Winter office hours are limited so please call before you arrive

Tuesday and Thursday 9-11 a.m.

The best way to reach the office is through email at hickoryhills@net1plus.com or leave a message at 978-582-6365.

Welcome to New Residents!

Please welcome the following new HHL residents to the community:



Robin Brown & Rachel Armington

Richard & Carolyn Hitchcock

Ruth & Wayne Cormier

Michael & Diane Toro

Joan & Robert Pease

Kirsten & Scott Snape

Joseph & Shoshana Mule

A Welcome meeting will be scheduled in the near future and new residents will be notified. Please make sure the office has your current email address and new phone numbers for our records.

CLASSIFIED SECTION IS COMING SOON TO OUR HHL WEBSITE

Coming this FEBRUARY, we'll be trying out a new Classifieds section to our very own Hickory Hills website! Just send an email or call the office about your item for sale and we'll display it for you (min sale price \$100).



We'll keep your items' 50 word or less description and optional photo on our website for one month.

You'll be in charge of all other communication and management for the sale of your item or real estate.

Just send an email to the office at hickoryhills@net1plus.com or call 978-582-6365 to get your item posted. Animal requests will not be accepted. You have to be 18 yrs or older to participate.



New HHL Office Manager

We're sad to see Pat Lastella leave as Office Manager here at HHL after giving us 8 years of exceptional work and dedication. We'll miss her at the office and her sense of humor for sure, BUT we're very excited to have found our new Office Manager, Nicole Waters! She comes to us from Apple, Inc. and has been a resident here at HHL for 10 years with her husband Doug. She's doing a fabulous job learning the ropes and we'd like to ask everyone to please join us welcoming her to her new role!



Respect Your Neighbors.

The winter has only begun and we're already receiving requests to remind our Snowmobile friends to remember their neighbors and not encroach on ice skating rinks and private property.

We would like to remind snowmobilers and ATV riders to stay off the Islands and the dike. Recreational vehicles on the islands and beaches damages the tree roots and causes erosion.

Please be considerate of your neighbors and keep your machine quiet after 10:00 p.m. Noise carries on the lake!

When riding, stay away from open water and think of safety first. Riders need to respect landowners and stay on marked trails! It is up to us as a community to police ourselves. Snowmobile and ATV riders need to operate their machines safely and with respect for the environment and their neighbors.

Please be considerate of your neighbors when engaged in winter use of the area, especially when operating a snowmobile, ATV, or drilling fishing holes in the ice. Sound carries on the lake, and loud machines roaring past homes late at night can disturb people's sleep. We urge all winter machine operators to show courtesy and respect for the property rights and feelings of all members of our lake community. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable winter!

Hydro-Raking Program Spring/Summer 2011

Last year the Board of Directors (BOD) and the Lake Management Group (LMG) oversaw the first hydro-raking project on the Lake. This project was conducted under a 30 day emergency permit issued by the Lunenburg Conservation Commission to remove sediment and debris washed into the Island Road Cove, Hemlock Beach and the boat ramp during the heavy rains in March and April.

In accordance with the approved LMG Plan, the BOD has approved additional hydro-raking in various community areas on the main lake and Little Hickory this year. Individual waterfront owners will also have the opportunity to contract for hydro-raking up to a maximum of 150 linear feet of their beach front, 30' from the high water mark.

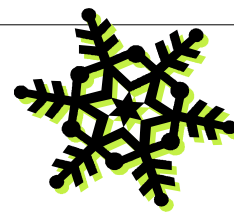
The Hydro-Rake can be described as a "floating backhoe". The equipment can operate in shallow water (<2 feet) and it can work to depths of 12 feet. It's successful at removing plants, debris and emergent shoreline vegetation. It's operated from the water to "rake" the sediment layer, collecting plants and detritus with its various attachments. The Hydro-Rake deposits each rake full of material directly on-shore. Debris removal from individual waterfront will be the responsibility of the homeowner.



The LMG and the BOD are in the process of finalizing the costs and implementation process for this exciting program. Program details will be available to interested waterfront owners in the office and on the website after February 15, 2011. Please check the website/office periodically as a firm deadline for the submission of hydro-raking applications will be established and work scheduled in each area of the lake accordingly. Please feel free to contact Dave MacDonald, Vice-Chair of the LMG, at 978 582-7474 or via email at davebettymacdonald@comcast.net if you have any questions about hydro-raking.

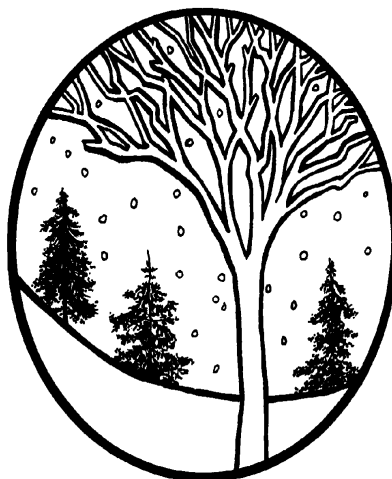


Winter Rules — Use of Hickory Hills Lake Area



To ensure a safe and enjoyable use of the Hickory Hills Lake area, we remind you of the following rules established by the state, town, and/or Hickory Hills Landowners:

1. Use of Hickory Hills Landowners' facilities, lake beaches, and islands is limited to licensed residents with current IDs and their guests.
2. Keep your ID with you while you use Landowners' facilities.
3. Guests must be accompanied by their host who has an ID while using Landowners' facilities.
4. Property owners who rent their homes are responsible for obtaining IDs for their renters.
5. Renters are not eligible to use Landowners' facilities unless they have identification.
6. No resident who is delinquent paying annual charges can be the guest of a resident who has paid annual charges.
7. Property owners are personally responsible for the behavior of their family members and guests while the latter are using Landowners' facilities.
8. Ice fishing is limited to residents with current IDs and their guests. A Massachusetts State Fishing License also is required.
9. Ice fishing is permitted from dawn to dusk only. no ice drills are to be operated before 6:00 a.m.
10. Ice fishing shall be done in compliance with all the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts including those laws and regulations concerning the number of fishing holes to be drilled each day and the size and number of fish to be taken.
11. No open fires are permitted on the lake or on the land. (The town also prohibits open fires.) All fires must be contained (grill, hibachi, etc.). All materials brought onto Landowners' facilities must be removed.
12. Vehicles may not be parked on public roads during snowstorms because they will obstruct snow plowing (a town ordinance). For fire purposes, all roads shall be kept clear during any type of weather.
13. Islands, except those privately owned and posted, may be used daylight hours only (one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset).
14. No trespassing on the dam spillway.
15. If a dog falls through the ice, do not attempt a rescue. The Lunenburg Rescue Squad has a flotation suit and can arrive within a few minutes to make a safe rescue.
16. No glass bottles or glass of any kind are permitted on Landowners' facilities.
17. Use of snowmobiles and recreation vehicles on Landowners facilities is limited to residents with current IDs and their guests. Snowmobiles and recreation vehicles also must be registered with the State of Massachusetts. Operating a snowmobile or recreation vehicle shall be done in compliance with all the laws and regulation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.





KEEP AN EYE ON THE ICE!



Winter has made its appearance in Massachusetts but at this stage of the season the condition of ice on

the Bay State's waterbodies can be unpredictable and treacherous. The Division of Fisheries & Wildlife urges outdoor enthusiasts to play it safe and check ice carefully before venturing onto ice-covered waters. A clear layer of 4-inch ice is a good, safe thickness for foot traffic. An ice strength table and safety tips are posted at www.mass.gov/masswildlife.

How can you tell if ice is safe? There are no guarantees -- always consider ice to be potentially dangerous. Assess ice safety by using an ice chisel to chop a hole in the ice to determine its thickness and condition.

Make sure you continue to do this as you go further out on to the ice, because the thickness of the ice will not be uniform all over the pond or lake. Be aware that ice tends to be thinner on lakes and ponds where there are spring holes, inlets or outlets. Don't venture on to ice bound rivers or streams because the currents make ice thickness unpredictable.

What if you fall through the ice? As with any emergency, don't panic! Briefly call for help. It doesn't take long for the cold water to start slowing your physical and mental functions,



so you must act quickly. Air will remain trapped in your clothes for a short time, aiding your buoyancy. Kick your legs while grasping for firm ice. Try to pull your body up using ice pins or picks that should be hanging around your neck. Once your torso is on firm ice, roll towards thicker ice. This will better distribute your weight. Remember that ice you have previously walked on should be the safest. After you reach safe ice don't waste precious time, you need to warm up quickly to prevent hypothermia. Go to the nearest fishing shanty, warm car, or house. Don't drive home in wet clothes!

If a companion falls through the ice remember the phrase "Reach-Throw-Go." If you are unable to reach your friend, throw him or her a rope, jumper cables, tree

branch, or other object. If this does not work, go for help before you also become a victim. Pet owners should keep pets on a leash. If a pet falls through the ice do not attempt to rescue the pet, go for help. Well-meaning pet owners can too easily become victims themselves when trying to

save their pets. Links to winter weather related preparedness tips and a video on ice safety from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources can be found at www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/recreation/safety/ice_safety.htm.



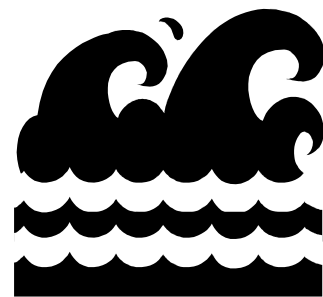
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