

Waves

The Newsletter of Hickory Hills Landowners

www.hickoryhillslake.com

978-582-6365

hickoryhills@netplus.com

Summer 2014

The Hickory Hills LMG Presents:

The MONTGOMERY CLASSIC POKER RUN

Saturday, August 9, 2014

Rain date Sunday August 10, 2014

\$20 PER PLAYER

EXTRA CARDS OR BUY-IN \$5 PER CARD

To Enter Contact Paula Bertram

(978) 582 9658 Paula.bertram@verizon.net

SET SAIL ANY TIME AFTER 12 NOON

BBQ at Island Road Beach

6:00 p.m.

Hands all in at 6:00 p.m.

Best Hand wins 50% of the proceeds

CARD LOCATIONS

(up to \$500)

- 1) Island Road Beach
- 2) The Malcomb's (149 Island Road)
- 3) Mike Nault's (56 Brookview Terrace/The Lifeguard Chair)
- 4) Brookview Beach
- 5) The Woodlands
- 6) Blueberry Island/Little Lizard (fishing tournament island between The Woodlands & Horizon Island Rd)
- 7) Dave & Betty MacDonald (155 Island Road)
- 8) Hemlock Beach
- 9) The Beaver Hut (The Bertram's 312 Townsend Harbor Rd.)
- 10) Andersons' Landing/Margaritaville (344 Townsend Harbor Rd.)



Proceeds will be dedicated to the fight against Fanwort



Come Take a Hike in our Hickory Woods

Hiking season is here! Time to enjoy some natural scenery with a hike through Hickory Woods! So set aside **Saturday, August 16th** rain date is August 17th and meet me



Picture taken at our 2014 Spring hike.

at the trail head at 10 a.m. between 200 and 214 Island Rd for a walking tour of the Hickory Woods and beyond. This walk is an **intermediate level hike** through Hickory Woods and a bit into the Lunenburg Town Forest. We will cover approximately 5 miles, so bring your favorite walking stick and water, and we'll be off! Call or email to confirm or to make arrangements for other dates!

Annual Shareholders Meeting

September 20, 2014



The Hickory Hills Landowners 36th Annual Shareholders Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at the Bull Run Restaurant in Shirley. The meeting is open to all shareholders in Hickory Hills Landowners, Inc.

Any property owner interested in becoming a shareholder can do so by contacting the office. There is a one time cost of \$240 to purchase a share. A share qualifies an owner to have a voice and vote in the management of the lake and a 50% discount on Boat Stickers, ID Cards and Releases. Become a Shareholder and have your opinions heard!

Shareholders packets were sent July 15th. If you plan to attend the optional dinner and/or just the meeting, please complete the [registration form](#). If you're not attending, please **ASSIGN SOMEONE TO VOTE YOUR PROXY** so your vote will still be heard and return it to the office.

Hope to see you all there!

Summer Youth Program!



We are very excited to be able to offer a Youth Program again this summer. It's being held 3 mornings per week at the Island Road Beach. If you're interested, please let us know ASAP to be sure we save a spot for you! It's open to any child or grandchild of a HHL resident ages 5 - 12 who would like to participate. If you haven't signed up, please send in your registration form today. We only have a few more spots! There are many activities planned and we are looking forward to more great fun for the kids of Hickory Hills.

Beach Clean-up Day — It is VERY much appreciated that residents take an active role in keeping the lake property clean. Thanks to the dedicated residents who did a fabulous job bringing the beaches back into shape after the winter. We wouldn't be able to enjoy them as we do without these folks donating their valuable time and energy! Thank you to everyone involved!

Thank You, Thank you, Thank you!

A HUGE THANKS go to the following residents!

Phyllis Andella for spreading, planting & donating the purchase of bark, plants & flowers by the roadside at the Island Road beach again this year! So beautiful Phyllis!

Roy Kennedy for donating his time every week for the residents using the Island Road beach yet another year moving the trash barrels to the street for curb pickup!

Dave & Betty MacDonald for donating a fence post hole digger for the new fence installation project at the Island Road Beach this Spring!

Stacey Manseau for taking a day to work with Office staff cleaning, pitching and organizing the Office storage closet. It's a thing 'o beauty now!!

Jack Rabbit for donating the use of his tractor and dragging the old telephone polls out from Island Rd during the fence replacement project. That was awesome!

Paul Anderson, Paula & Tom Bertram, Peter Charpentier, Shawn Kelley, Dave MacDonald, Fred Malcomb, Mike Nault, Tom Nowd, Walt Parquet, Doug Pulsifer, Brett Ramsden, Scott Snape, Jamie Toale & Doug Waters for their hard work digging, raking, mulching and installing the new beautiful fencing at the Island Road Beach! Thanks!!!



Annual Fee Increase Questions & Answers

Q. Why will the Board Of Directors (BOD) recommend a fee increase at this year's Shareholder's meeting?

A. The BOD is looking to create a financial model that supports the upcoming Hickory Hill Dam capacity improvement project.

Q. Why does Hickory Hills need to improve the capacity of the dam?

A. After a Massachusetts dam failure occurred in 2008, the state changed the discharge capacity requirements for high hazard dams.

Q. Why is Hickory Hills dam rated high hazard? Can we get that changed?

A. The failure of our dam could result in loss of life and significant infrastructure destruction down stream. We investigated this with our engineer and after reviewing the inundation area the answer is no.

Q. What is the discharge capacity requirement?

A. The State requires dams must have the capacity to release 1/2 the Probable Maximum Flood (1/2 PMF) potential for the compound.

Q. What is our current discharge capacity?

A. Our spillway meets the discharge capacity of up to a 500 year storm.

Q. I've heard that we only miss the 1/2 PMF by a few inches. Does the state take that into account?

A. Due to the near level nature of our dam/spillway and 1900' earthen embankment, once the water reaches the crest at the lowest point, it soon after breaches the entire embankment so the calculations essentially stop. What the model shows is a few inches of water across the entire embankment. Think of your bath tub over flowing. Once it reaches the rim, the additional water is irrelevant to the drain it spills on the floor.

Q. Is the current Swale construction project part of the dam capacity project?

A. The current project is being completed to address a safety concern that was raised by our engineering firm Tighe & Bond during our 2012 state mandated bi-annual safety inspection.

Q. What is the Swale project?

A. The project addresses "culling" or water that is seeping from the base of the embankment that is potentially pulling material from the core of the embankment. The top soil from the 400' collection area will be removed, a filter/retaining material will be installed and covered with rip rap.

Q. Hasn't the collection area at the base of the embankment always been there? What changed?

A. Although we have no "as built" plans of the embankment, we believe the collection area was intentionally installed to collect and direct the seepage to the Mulpus downstream (all dams have some normal seepage). Our engineer has observed sediment collecting that appears to be coming from the embankment.

Q. What happens if we don't make the proposed upgrades?

A. Currently our dam is rated as "satisfactory". We are making the improvements to maintain this rating. The satisfactory rating allows us to maintain a safe environment and keeps our insurance premium reasonable.

Q. Why has the BOD come up with the tentative timeline of 7 years to make the capacity improvements to the dam? Is this set in stone?

A. The BOD has been advised to prepare a long range plan that meets the capacity requirements in a timeframe we, in coordination with the Finance Committee, believe is fiscally responsible. Shareholders will be asked to vote on the final recommended plan in September. We will be reviewing the costs and finances annually.

Q. Is the state mandating the performance upgrade?

A. At this time the Office of Dam Safety (ODS) has not given Hickory Hills any specific deadline to complete the project. They noted in correspondences and on our construction permit the 1/2 PMF requirement and our intent to address the issue.

Q. If the Office of Dam Safety (ODS) is not mandating the timeline why are we tentatively planning for 7 years.

A. Hickory Hills has a long history working with ODS to maintain a safe and responsible plan to address concerns that have been brought to our attention via our bi-annual safety inspection, these include:

- ◇ 1982 adding emergency spillway
- ◇ 1996 replacement of the rip rap on the embankment
- ◇ 2001- 2007 removal of trees from base of embankment

Q. What happens if we don't do the upgrade?

A. If and when the state mandates us to meet 1/2 PMF, we will be required to make the upgrades under their timeline. This timeline is an unknown that the BOD cannot plan for and could result in a marked and immediate fee increase to support. If the upgrades are not completed as mandated we would lose our satisfactory rating and ODS has the power to force us to reduce the lake level. Or even, though highly unlikely, breach the dam.

Q. How do I as a resident, have a voice in this decision?

A. Shareholders should attend the Annual Meeting on Sept 20, 2014, where everyone's voice is heard and vote is counted. If you're not a Shareholder, it's not too late to become one. Contact the Office for more information.



Summer 2014



Beavers, beavers, beavers!

Recently, residents have commented that there is a greater than average beaver population on the lake. There is concern

about our natural vegetation.

Although many of us prefer the heron, fish, and bald eagle, our lake is also a natural habitat for the occasional Canadian goose, water snake and beavers.

Our Commonwealth mandates that beaver activity must be deemed a nuisance to public health or safety by local health department prior to issuing a permit for trapping and/or removal of our flat-tailed friends from their chosen location.

Trapping is usually only a temporary solution – those beavers are pretty smart and not prone to hanging out in traps. To protect lakefront flora and fauna, many suggest wrapping landscape cloth or wire around trees and large bushes.



Bump – Set – Spike!

Meet your neighbors for **Adult Volleyball** at the Island Rd Beach on Thursday evenings during the summer starting at 6:30 pm and have

Beach Hours

The beaches are open from dawn to dusk. Please make sure your vehicles have HHL car stickers when parking at the beaches & are not in the parking lot after 8:00 p.m. except for volleyball nights on Thursday's.



Final Notices for 2014 Annual Maintenance Fees

Your 2014 annual maintenance fees were due on May 1st. We are using the same program as in the past, which will automatically assess interest on any bills that are more than 30 days past due. We have received payment from most of our residents – Thank you! Final notices have been sent.

Please send your payment to P.O. Box 298, Lunenburg, MA or feel free to use the black rectangular drop box to the left of the office door.



Summer Office Hours

Mon., Wed. & Thurs.
9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Please call the office before arriving to make sure someone is there, 978-582-6365. If nec-

essary, appointments may be made for a more convenient time. Remember you can always leave payments and forms in the drop box located to the upper left of the Office door. The best way to reach the office is by email at hickory-hills@net1plus.com.

Security Team & Contact Number

This season we have two new members to our Security Team. Please welcome **Allycin Leblanc** and **Jonathan Hudson**. They are patrolling the lake area and beaches by boat during varied hours every day throughout the summer with Randy Gagne who we're happy to have back this year. Please be prepared to show your IDs and have boat stickers visible on all watercrafts, as well as your FREE resident car stickers on your automobile if parked at our lots. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Please call our **NEW security phone number at (978) 877-8672** if you 1) have a boating safety concern, 2) are wondering if Security is free to inspect your boat outside inspection hours, 3) notice a non-resident at one of our 3 beaches, 4) see a floating dock lost, or 5) see a tree log drifting in the lake, . **If you have an emergency situation call the police directly.**

Our Boat Entry Protocol

In order to prevent further introduction of invasive species into Hickory Hills, we have formalized the way in which boats are put into the lake from the Island Road boat launch. The BOD has been in contact with most everyone who doesn't use the ramp. It is expected that anyone putting a boat into the lake from private shorelines follow the states regulations and guidelines for invasive species control. Please contact the office with any questions or concerns.

HHL will continue to staff the boat launch to perform boat and trailer inspections prior to allowing boats to be placed into the lake from the boat ramp on Island Rd.

Thank you for all your cooperation in this evolving process to maintain the purity and scenic beauty of our wonderful lake.





Fanwort Update

As most of you are all aware, the invasive weed Fanwort, has unfortunately been found in our lake.

In order to try and prevent additional spreading, visual surveys are being done regularly by volunteers so we can identify any spread and remove it.



Noodle Marker

Areas of suspected Fanwort are being marked. If you see one of these markers (green noodle piece pictured here) in the lake, immediately leave the area.

Fanwort reproduces by fragmentation. Swimming or boating in an area with Fanwort could easily cause the plant to fragment & spread.



If you see fanwort **floating** on the top of the water, please pick it up. If you see it **growing**, immediately leave the area and **DO NOT TOUCH THE PLANT**.

Instead report the location by sending an email to fanwort@hickoryhillslake.com or by calling Paula Bertram at (978) 582-9658 or Fred Malcomb, (978) 582-1284.

Swimming, fishing and boating in ANY marked area is strictly prohibited.

We are continuing to look for volunteer surveyors & DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvester) operators/divers. If you'd like to help, please contact the office or Fred Malcomb.



Surveyor & DASH Map! *Fanwort*

View our HHL Google Map created and maintained by Scott Snape for the past 2 years and now updated by Donna Fortune this year each week.

The map displays each location where Surveyors found Fanwort in Hickory Hills Lake, and where one of our three DASH teams have since removed it!

Each of these DASH teams consists of 7 people in constant coordination ensuring not only the safety of our

volunteer divers but really working hard to ensure the Fanwort itself gets safely stored and removed.

We wouldn't be able to achieve so much without these non-stop, FUN and hardworking teams!!

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=200879754797223070081.0004c43114cd79d066791&msa=0&dg=feature>

Hooray for the Loosestrife Vigilantes!

A heartfelt thank you to **Anne Davis** and her team of Loosestrife Vigilantes for patrolling literally the entire lake again this season pulling Loosestrife from our shorelines.

Loosestrife is another invasive weed known to Hickory Hills Lake and has been kept from taking over our shorelines every year by this team lead by Anne.

We are truly fortunate to have such dedicated people caring for our lake. If you see this plant, please pull it and call the office so this team can add it to their list.





Fantasy Football Anyone?

If you're a fan of Football, get in touch with Steve Douglas to join in on the fun of Fantasy Football. Reach out to him by August 11, 2014 if interested. Your fantasy draft will be needed in the last two weeks of August!!

Bark N' Bubbles DOG SPA

Does your dog despise the groomers?

Bark N' Bubbles is a relaxed in-home environment that isn't like any other groomers office.

At Bark N' Bubbles, your dog can have a spa day, groom, haircut, bath, do agility, roller-blade, have a massage and a lot more!

Services are performed here at Hickory Hills using all safe & effective supplies.

Angela is 14 years old and is an experienced dog groomer with two dogs of her own, a Labrador Retriever and a Golden Retriever.

She is a member of the YGRC, AKC, and UKC.

Angela does Jr Showmanship, Jr handling, obedience, rally, and agility with her dogs.

Call, Text or email to learn more!

C: 978 793-3135 or 978 582-9672

<http://dogzrule2012.wix.com/barknbubblesdogspa>

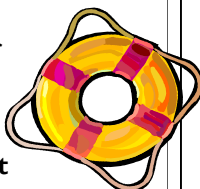


Registration of Boats and Motors

All watercrafts and motors must be registered through the office. Boat stickers are \$20.00 for non-shareholders and \$10.00 for shareholders.

Safe Boating Guides are available at the office!

Please contact the office to get your boat or car stickers to park in one of our lots.



Small Group Fitness Classes !!



Mention you're from Hickory Hills to try out your first class FREE !!

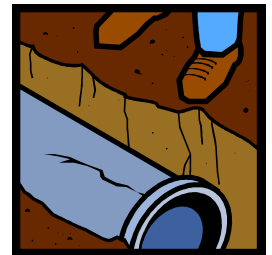
Contact Lynn Walsh at 978-514-2903

Personal Training DISCOUNTS for Hickory Hills residents also available.

Call now for details!

PUBLIC FORUM TO DISCUSS PROPOSED NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

On Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., State Legislators and the Nashoba Valley of Chamber of Commerce will host a public forum, for impacted communities in the region, to discuss the proposed Northeast Energy Direct **gas pipeline expansion project coming through Lunenburg & Townsend.**

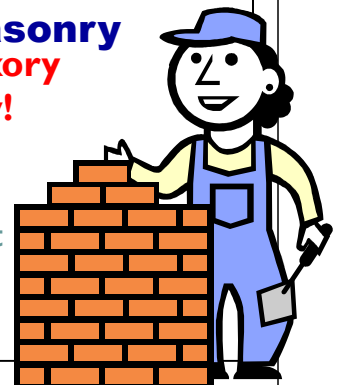


The meeting will be held at the Lunenburg H.S. auditorium. The purpose of the public forum is for state elected and local officials, residents, and business owners to share information and coordinate efforts on the issue. The legislators believe it is crucial for all impacted residents and municipalities to have an abundance of information, and understand the characteristics of the pipeline, **such as its route, and what land and environmentally sensitive areas it would affect,** in order to make decisions concerning the project. The discussion is open to all members of the public. Please join us Aug 5th to learn how and if this project would effect our lake's tributaries. Hope to see you there!

Matt Proctor Masonry
20% Discount For Hickory Hills Residents Only!

20% discount when you mention you're from Hickory Hills on your next Masonry project!

Call 978 855 0965 NOW!





HHL Appreciates All Gift Donations!

The following residents have donated to the
Capital Asset Reserve Fund

REMOVED FOR WEB VIEWING

WELCOME

HHL, welcomes the following new residents who have recently moved to our lake community. We hope you have met your neighbors and are looking forward to a great summer season!

REMOVED FOR WEB VIEWING

The following residents have donated to the
Harvester Fund

REMOVED FOR WEB VIEWING

The following residents have donated to the
Dam Fund

REMOVED FOR WEB VIEWING

The following residents have donated to the
Invasive Weed Fund

REMOVED FOR WEB VIEWING

The following residents have donated to the
General Fund

REMOVED FOR WEB VIEWING



Classifieds

Aluminum Dock/Raft for Sale

\$300.00

10' Long X 30" Wide

Made by Metal Craft Co Ohio

Condition very good, wear to original finish

Flotation in excellent condition

Aluminum deck excellent to very good condition

2" X 3" patch over an old mounting hole

If interested, call Carl Klempner 617 803 5201



Fiberglass Slide for Sale

\$200.00

7 1/2' High X 11' Long

Very good condition. No cracks or breaks

Surfaced refinished with Marine Coating

Mounted to wooden base for stability

If interested, call Carl Klempner 617 803 5201



Sailboat for Sale

Price reduced \$675 O/B/R/O

12' AMF Puffer, Sloop RIG (2 Sails), fiberglass with aluminum mast; currently stored at Hickory Hills Lake, Lunenburg, MA.

If interested, contact Richard Clark @ 860-649-8520 or Nancy Sampson (cell) 203-241-5149.

Pictured below is but not actual photo of boat.



Free Floating Barrels

Four barrels for floating docks. If you need any barrels, please contact Marjorie at

978 413-1182 or marj978@hotmail.com

Native Plant Donations For Islands

The Erosion Control group is gearing up to do some more erosion control out on the Big Island and the Island next to the partially recovered Dot Island.

We are looking for donations of native plants like swamp maple, blueberry bush, pepper bush etc. (Members have already pulled out several unwanted swamp maples

that were growing in their gardens and have potted them to help with this team's efforts). If you have any plants that you're pruning from your property and could donate, please let Paula Bertram know at paula.bertram@verizon.net.





Summer 2014

2014 Boat Parade



For more parade pictures, check out our website at <http://www.hickoryhillslake.com>



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