

CLEAR THINKING

CLEARLAKECONSERVANCY.ORG

JULY 2025 | ISSUE NO.61

OUR LETTER

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KEEPING UP WITH CLEAR LAKE

Welcome summer! As we reach the peak of lake season in July, the energy of Clear Lake remains unmatched. Keeping up with the local activities and projects may seem challenging, but we hope to make it easy. This newsletter simply highlights 10 things to know about the Conservancy this summer. As always, check out our website or contact our office for more details.



Caroline Barth Executive Director



Doug Mulvaney President

AQUATIC VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Good news! Our spring survey of aquatic vegetation on Clear and Round Lakes showed only 2 acres of invasive watermilfoil and 12.5 acres of invasive curly-leaf pondweed. With no spring treatment planned, the growth of our aquatic vegetation will continue to be monitored for future control plans.

SEE THE SURVEYS HERE





BORTON WETLANDS RESTORATION

With the support of a \$5,000 NIPSCO Environmental Action Grant, restoration work has begun at Borton Wetlands. Our work focuses on allowing a variety of deep-rooted native plants to grow, filtering groundwater, and improving habitat in the ecosystem.

WATERSHED DIAGNOSTIC STUDY

Our Watershed Diagnostic Study continues monitoring our two major inlet ditches, the outflow dam at Round Lake, and deep portions of the lake basin. When weather patterns change with increased rainfall, dry spells, heat waves, or pop-up storms, the automatic samplers gather data on how our lake reacts.





PUBLIC TRAILS

This summer, consider visiting our public trails at Clear Lake Nature Preserve, Waterfield Preserve, and Elizabeth Hanna Nature Preserve. Our public trails are open from dawn to dusk, foot traffic only, and pets are welcome when on a leash.



INDIANA WILD – AUGUST 30TH

Mark your calendars! On August 30th at 10 AM, Indiana Wild will be bringing LIVE animals to Memorial Woods at Point Park for an exciting presentation about our Indiana critters. More details to come.

KNEE-HIGH NATURALISTS

Join us from 10 - 11:30 am, on July 11, 18, and 25 at Memorial Woods near Point Park and on August 1 at the Clear Lake Marina for our free youth education programs. This year's topics include Bugs Bugs Bugs!, Water Quality and Aquatic Insects, Wilderness 101, and Gone Fishin'.



VIEW THE FLYER



SUMMER GUIDED HIKE - AUGUST 9 AT 9 AM

Start off your Saturday morning with a peaceful hike through the woods by joining us at **Waterfield Preserve on August 9 at 9 AM**. Learn about trees, grasses, habitat restoration and water quality filtration at Koeneman Lake.

GLACIAL STONE REINFORCEMENT AT KASOTA ISLAND

The Kasota Island Shoreline Protection project began in 2017 to reduce erosion and protect the Island's shoreline. This summer, we received a generous donation to reinforce the east shoreline with additional glacial stone. We completed this work in June.





LAKE FRIENDLY LIVING

We all play a role in the health of our environment and the water quality within our lake. Remember to minimize or reduce phosphorus/fertilizer use, reduce erosion of your property and shoreline, and avoid stirring up the lake floor by idling in shallow areas.



RUN DAY, FUN DAY SUPPORT

We are extremely grateful for 28 amazing sponsors that supported Run Day, Fun Day and our mission to protect Clear Lake's environment. Over 60 volunteers showed up to ensure this event was a day to remember. Catch the full Run Day, Fun Day recap in our next

Clear Thinking newsletter.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Tom and Sheila Hogan

Mark and Josie Sweenev

Rachael Thomas

Maria Zeman

HONORARIUMS

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The Kramer Family

at Willow Hollow

Doug Mulvaney and Jennifer Nielsen

Terry and Koggy Newcomb

Tom and Jenny Parker

Bill and Kim Pepple

Nancy and Bob Webster

MANAGEMENT Julie Monson & **Gary Thompson**

FOREVER FUND Jack and Karen Horrell

WATER QUALITY The Chicago

Community Foundation on behalf of Judy and Bill Greffin

GRANT SUPPORT

Restoration Action Grant

Bernard

Lake Access Magazine



*List reflects contributions and pledges received between April 30, 2025 and June 25, 2025. All Run Day, Fun Day contributions will be listed in September. Contact us if you see a mistake.

Susie Compo Kathy Latz



M: Leo Weber Julie Monson & **Gary Thompson**

TRIBUTE GARDEN

AT MEN WOODS T: Eleanor Holley **Barb Wenger**

CONSERVANCY SUSTAINERS

Alex and Susan Connett

Susanne Cusick with employer match from AbbVie

Zach Dean

Borton Wetlands

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GLOSSARY TERMS TO KNOW

HABITAT: The natural place for an organism to live and grow. Suitability of a habitat is determined by climate factors like seasonal variations in temperature, humidity, and availability of light as well as environmental factors such as soil richness, types of vegetation present, and availability of water.

MISSION STATEMENT

We preserve, protect, & manage the natural environment within the Clear Lake Watershed and Township for future generations.

VOLUNTEERCONTACTDONATEclearlakeconservancy.org
or call (260) 527-1072



PHOTO BY BILL CULBERTSON

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING WHEN: July 25th 4:00 p.m Clear Lake Lutheran Church Pavilion

SUMMER GUIDED HIKE

WHEN: August 9th 9:00 a.m Waterfield Preserve INDIANA WILD! WHEN: August 30th 10:00 a.m Memorial Woods