

GLEN ECHO NEWS

Fall 2009

www.glenecholake.org

DRAWDOWN ~ 15 OCTOBER 09

DRAWDOWN

This year's drawdown started on October 15, 2009. Based on the increase in weed growth Glen Echo has experienced over the past few years, Lycott recommended increasing the drawdown level to 5-feet. At the September 2009 meeting, the membership voted to follow Lycott's recommendation. Refill will not start until we have received notification from Lycott that a hard freeze has occurred. A full refill will be performed this year rather than the "stepped" refill.

The request for drawdown was presented to the Conservation Commission on 7 October 09. The 5-foot drawdown was approved at that time. *HOWEVER*, this decision was rescinded at the 21 October 09 Conservation Commission meeting due to some residents concerns regarding their shallow wells and the information found in the existing Notice of Intent filed by the Board of Selectmen.

In the existing Notice of Intent (NOI), which governs the drawdown and herbicide treatments, the drawdown level is stated as 4-feet. Since the Board of Selectmen are listed as the applicant on the NOI, the Association has requested to be placed on the 10 November 2009 Board of Selectmen agenda to discuss amending the NOI to allow a 5-foot drawdown for 2009.

Please be aware that the reason for increasing the drawdown level to 5-feet is to aid in weed control. Over the past several years, we have experienced excessive weed growth,

and this past summer several algae blooms were detected. Lycott surveyed the lake several times this summer and noted the weed growth and location. Drawdowns are a low-cost, environmentally friendly method for weed control and allow for additional waterfront clean up and repair which preserves the ecology of the lake.

If the Board of Selectmen do not allow the 5-foot drawdown, additional herbicide treatments (above those currently contracted) will most likely be necessary to address the problem.

Until such time as a decision is made by the Board of Selectmen, the 2009 drawdown will continue to a level of 4-feet.

GEIA PROPERTY

As you may know, the Association has spent thousands of dollars for much needed erosion control along the shore line as well as other improvements and maintenance on its property located on Glen Echo Shore Road over the past few years. Improvements include, but are not limited to:

1. Boulders along both property lines to eliminate parking and to encourage the use of the property as a park and beach.
2. Updated signs which indicate the rules and use of the property as well as a sign down near the water indicating that the area is for emergency vehicles only.
3. Shoreline improvements to eliminate erosion

4. Brush clean up and general beach maintenance

Unfortunately, despite these measures, including public awareness through the newsletter and postings around the lake and at the property, unauthorized parking and vehicle activity continues to be an issue.

At the September 2009 meeting, the membership voted to restrict the launching of boats on its property beginning in 2010 to paid members of the GEIA only.

In order to control access for boat launching and other vehicle activity on the association property to GEIA members only, effective November 1, 2009 a permanent chain & lock system will be installed at the entrance to the property. The chain will not affect those residents with deeded rights to use the property as a beach and they will still be able to gain walking access to this property.

This chain will also curtail unauthorized ATV use on the property, especially during the wet fall and spring seasons which causes rutting, erosion and runoff both on the property and the shoreline beach area. These damages are expensive to repair and are harmful to the lake.

The Board of Directors and Beach Sub Committee are currently working on a policy for launching and hauling boats on the GEIA property to be in place for the 2010 boating year.

A list of volunteers will be established, located around the lake, which will have a key to the lock. Active members will need to contact one of these volunteers in order to access the property to launch/haul their boats.

This information will be available well in advance of the 2010 boating season and all residents will be notified. If you have any comments and/or concerns, please contact R. Lemansky at 248-6376.

SUMMER FISHING DERBY

The annual fishing derby was held on Sunday, 12 Jul 09. There was a good turn out this year and everyone had a great time. The results are:

1st place: Andy, Henry and Cody with 8.60-lbs

2nd place: Mike and Jordan with 8.58 -lbs

3rd place: Dave and Al with 8.42-lbs

1st place LUNKER went to Wyatt Nowak and Jake McCart with a 2.71-lb catch.

Also fishing were:
Nick and Alyssa with 7.76-lbs

Peter and Graham with 6.67-lbs

Joe and Bobby with 7.58-lbs

Mike and Jim with 6.22-lbs

BOAT PARADE

The annual Glen Echo Lake Boat Parade was held on July 4, 2009 at 4:00 pm.

This year ~20 boats and several Jet-skis joined the parade. First place went to the North family for their "Hall of Presidents" boat. Second place went to the Peter's boat.

Prizes were donated by Mrs. Everon Watch and the anonymous Committee for Goodwill and Harmony on Glen Echo Lake. Congrats!

GLEN ECHO WEAR

We are currently taking orders for Glen Echo Wear. If you are interested in ordering items, please use the order form at the end of this newsletter. Items are available in both adult and children's sizes. Payment is due at the time of order. Orders are due by November 23, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact Marge Hewitt at 508-248-7275. Also available are ceramic mugs, commuter mugs, and front zip "track" style jackets. Please call for colors and pricing.

ALERT! ZEBRA MUSSELS

According to a recent MA COLAP membership letter, zebra mussels have been discovered in Laurel Lake in Lee, MA. Zebra mussels are an aquatic invasive species that can damage lake and river ecology, boats, motors, and infrastructure.

According to the Mass Wildlife website, zebra mussels, (*Dreissena polymorpha*) are "small freshwater mollusks (fingernail sized) with a striped pattern on their shell. They typically live 2 to 5 years in temperate climates. This is the only freshwater mussel that can attach to a hard surface. Zebra mussels breed prolifically and can form dense clusters, in some cases over 700,000 per square meter."

Zebra mussels are transferred from one water body to another via unclean trailers and/or boats. The Mass. Dept. of Fish and Game has instituted a "clean boat" certification program to prevent transfer of this species from lake to lake. In addition, access to Laurel Lake was closed in July 09 for the remainder of the boating season.

What does this mean to you?? If you trailer your boat between water bodies, **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to ensure your trailer and boat are clean of weeds, organisms and other lake debris.

Please help to keep Glen Echo (and other water bodies) clean and healthy by ensuring your boat and trailer are clean before you enter a new water body.

For more information on the zebra mussel threat, please go to www.mass.gov/lakesandponds.

NEXT MEETING
May 2010 (TBD)
7:00 PM
Senior Center

GEIA OFFICERS
President:
Jackie Nowak
248-4832

Vice President:
Donna Peters
248-6140

Secretary:
Steve Frederico
508-334-0074

Treasurer:
Patrick Lefebvre

GLEN ECHO WEAR ORDER FORM

Name		Address	
Phone No.			
Date			

Style	Price	Qty	Color	Logo Color	Size	TOTAL Price

Available Garments and their Prices

Women's	
Style	Price
Tank Top	10.00
Short Sleeve T	10.00
Long Sleeve T	14.50
Crew Sweatshirt	15.00
Hooded Sweatshirt	20.00
Hooded Zip Sweatshirt	25.00
Sweat Pants	15.00

Men's	
Style	Price
Short Sleeve T	10.00
Long Sleeve T	14.50
Crew Sweatshirt	15.00
Hooded Sweatshirt	20.00
Hooded Zip Sweatshirt	25.00
Sweat Pants	15.00

Children's	
Style	Price
Short Sleeve T	10.00
Crew Sweatshirt	15.00
Hooded Zip Sweatshirt	25.00

Notes:

All sweatshirts have logo on the chest
Long Sleeve T has a logo on the chest and "Glen Echo Lake" down the sleeve (two screen prints)
Sweat pants have "Glen Echo Lake" down the pants leg
Children's Short Sleeve T has "Property of Glen Echo Lake" on the back

Style	Garment Color Choices												
	White	Ash	Steel Grey	Navy	Black	Forest	Stone Wash	Daffodil	Light Steel	Pebble	Violet	Denim Blue	Stonewash Green
Tank Top	X	X			X			X			X		
Short Sleeve T	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X			
Long Sleeve T	X	X		X	X	X							
Sweatshirt	X	X		X				X				X	X
Sweat Pants		X	X	X	X								
Logos	X			X	X								

Garment Sizes	
All adult garments, except Long Sleeve T	S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL
Adult Long Sleeve T	M, L, XL, XXL
Youth Garments	XS, S, M, L

Youth sizes: XS(4), S(6-8), M(10-12), L(14-16)

Mail order with your check to:

Glen Echo Improvement Assoc.
P.O. Box 578
Charlton City, MA 01508

Questions? Call Marge Hewitt at 508-248-7275

