

## ANN LAKE WATER LOG

## NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2025

**ALPOA  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY  
JUNE 21, 2025  
10AM-12PM**

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN  
THE ALMIRA TOWNSHIP HALL  
IN LAKE ANN VILLAGE

**ANNUAL BOAT  
PARADE**

**FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025**

**1PM**

LINE UP ON  
NORTHWEST SAND  
BAR IN ANN LAKE

THEME: "AMERICANA"

**1st, 2nd, 3rd PRIZES  
WILL BE AWARDED**

**BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS**  
**THE 2025 BOARD:**  
**Jeff Dahlberg**  
*President*  
**Kathy Garmes-Taylor**  
*Vice President*  
**Dave Maxson**  
*Treasurer*  
**Val Dahlberg**  
*Secretary*

**AT-LARGE  
BOARD MEMBERS:**  
**Maggie Sowers**  
**Darryl Perry**  
**Aaron Jenkins**  
**Randy Davis**  
**Don Shires**

## Lake Ann Days

**Burnett Park  
Lake Ann Village  
Saturday  
July 12, 2025  
9:00am-2pm**

**Look for the ALPOA  
Booth  
Stop by for a chat!!!**

# President's Letter

By Jeff Dahlberg

Wow, what a winter!! Traverse City had 137 inches of snow this winter, 44 inches above normal and I can tell you that we probably had more around Lake Ann. Seemed like it did not stop snowing from November through the end of March. The lake froze over, which had not been the case for the last couple of years. We needed the snow, as the lake seems to be a bit lower than normal, and it does seem dry around here. Finally got some significant snow melt around the end of March and could see all the branches and limbs that had fallen this year, so I've got a bit of cleanup to do around our property. Walking around Lake Ann, we again saw numerous trees down. What is strange is the number of trees that seem to be breaking 20-30 feet above the ground. We've had days of high fire warnings, which is a good indication of how, even with all the snow, we are still under a bit of a drought situation. These are the challenges with climate and trying to predict what each season will look like. Again, I would highly recommend checking out Michigan's website about wildfires at <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/forestry/fire> for some useful suggestions about protecting yourself and your property from possible wildfires.

I will be finishing out 2025 as the President and then moving on to chair our Invasive Species Committee, which has been under the capable leadership of Kent Taylor. Kent is stepping away from the Board after many years of service. Kent did a fantastic job with the committee, and I want to thank him personally for all the hard work and dedication he has shown in helping to keep our lake free of invasive species. It has been a challenge, given that most of the lakes surrounding us have reported several issues over the last couple of years. Kent, thank you for your service to ALPOA and for helping to keep the lake free of issues.

I was asked to serve on the Science and Research Committee of the Northern Michigan Watershed Coalition. I thought this would be a good committee to be on to start learning about the issues facing our lakes here in Northern Michigan. We are working to put together a comprehensive data base of the water quality of the lakes. This will have standardized results that will be useful in the future for organizations, DNR, and others looking at the quality of our lakes. It will help to make research-based decisions on actions to help protect them in the future. I'm also working on getting to know more about the threats of invasive species to Ann Lake, and what we can do to continue to be proactive about keeping it clean and healthy.

We will continue to work to increase our membership in the Association through various membership drives and outreach events, such as being at the Lake Ann Days event this summer. We always need volunteers to help in monitoring our lake, helping with our water quality testing, and at times removing any invasive species that might pop up. We continue to work with the Benzie Conservation District as well as Almira Township on programs to educate all users of Ann Lake on aquatic invasive plants and species. The Board and I look forward to continuing ALPOA's commitment to you and the preservation of Ann Lake. Please browse our web site often, at [annlake.org](http://annlake.org) for updates and informational materials if you are interested in Ann Lake. Feel free to contact me with any suggestions or concerns at [president@annlake.org](mailto:president@annlake.org). Welcome to 2025 and enjoy the lake.



## Greenbelt of the Year Award

The Annual ALPOA Greenbelt Award will be given at the Annual Meeting. Each year the ALPOA Board of Directors chooses a single riparian property having an exemplary greenbelt. We select this property based on appearance, foliage indigenous to Northern Michigan inland lakes and true greenbelt function. We encourage all Ann Lake property owners to landscape their lakeshore areas with these characteristics in mind.

Congratulations, again, to the [2024](#) Greenbelt of the Year winners, Carlene and Garry Lancewicz.



## 2025 Treasurer Report By Dave Maxson

In the interest of condensing space for this newsletter, here are just the highlights of the financial activity for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024.

- \*Total income was \$4,901.08.
- \*Total expenses (including transfers to reserves) were \$4,107.52.
- \*The net result was a surplus of \$793.56 for the year.
- \*The balance of the Operating Fund was \$6,309.42, to begin 2025.
- \*The reserve for remediation upon the discovery of an invasive species is \$11,470.10.
- \*The sum of all funds, including all reserves, was \$23,661.28.

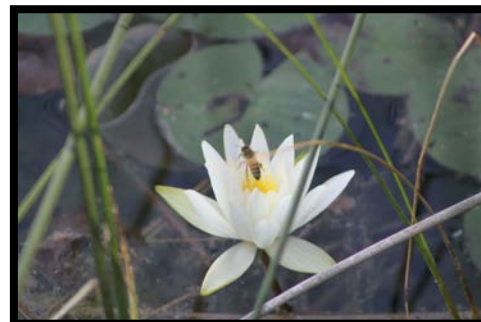
The complete, detailed report can be found at [annlake.org](http://annlake.org)

## 2025 Water Quality Report By Dave Maxson

ALPOA volunteers continued (since 1999) to collect samples and record measurements of clarity, phosphorus, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, and water temperature throughout the 2024 summer season. Here is the summary conclusion from the report issued by the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP).

*With an average TSI score of 34 based on 2024 Secchi transparency, chlorophyll-a, and summer total phosphorus data, this lake is rated as oligotrophic. The low level of nutrients in the lake results in dissolved oxygen being available throughout the water column for most of the summer, and only by the end of the summer does the bottom of the lake become anoxic. Long term trends indicate that the trophic status parameters have not changed beyond minor year-to year variation since monitoring began.*

Translation? It's all good! For those who are interested in more details, the full CLMP report (19 pages!) as well as others from past years, can be found on the ALPOA website [annlake.org](http://annlake.org).



## 2025 Loon Report

### By Kathy Garmes-Taylor

It is April 2025 and the loons are starting to head back north for the season. Last year, we had a mixed season. The artificial nest was launched the end of April 2024 and on June 1st, two chicks left the nest. Here's a picture of our 2-day old chicks hitching a ride with their parents. Unfortunately, we lost one of the chicks around Jun 17<sup>th</sup>. We heard squawking in the middle of the night and the next day, only 1 chick was seen with the parents. We assume that a turtle or a pike must have attacked the chick overnight, but we can't be certain. There had also been jet skiers active around the boat launch; it is hard to see a little fuzz ball in the water when you're zipping around on your jet ski. We'll continue to ask everyone to be careful and be sure to give the loon family a wide berth.



While we on Ann Lake have been lucky to have one nesting pair who usually have at least 1 chick; there have been concerns that the chicks are seen later and later in the fall still on the lake. In 2024, the second chick was still seen on the lake on November 6<sup>th</sup>. This chick also had a respiratory problem; you could hear it before you saw it. While we never saw the chick take any practice flights, we can only keep our fingers crossed that our chick has successfully flown south.

It is even more crucial that we do whatever we can to ensure that our loons have a successful mating season. The artificial nest was launched on April 27 this year in its normal location at the west end of Ann Lake. Normally it takes the loons 2-3 weeks to start nesting which means we may have hatching eggs/chicks by Memorial weekend. Please remind your family and guests to stay away from the nest and give the loons their space. After leaving the nest, the "loon family" usually remains in the bay, often on the north side near the boat launch. Please advise your friends and family to approach the launch at a slow speed so they can avoid the loons as necessary.

Several owners on Ann Lake, who are members of the ALPOA Loon Committee, have become active in the Michigan Loon Preservation Society. See [michiganloons.org](https://michiganloons.org). They have been active in requesting that lake associations educate their members on ways to help protect the loons.

#### What You Can Do to Help:

- ☒ Avoid fishing with lead tackle and dispose of it properly.
- ☒ Slow down when operating watercraft, especially in areas where loons are known to inhabit.
- ☒ Properly dispose of fishing line and hooks.
- ☒ Be aware of loons and their nesting areas, particularly with wake boats.
- ☒ Support efforts to protect loons from diseases like Aspergillosis.

By taking these actions, we can help protect loons and ensure they continue to thrive in our waters. Educate others about the importance of identifying loons in the wild to prevent tragic accidents. Watch the [annlake.org](https://annlake.org) website for any updates on the loon progress.

***The Endangered Species Act makes it unlawful to harass, hunt, shoot, capture, trap, kill, collect, wound, harm, or pursue a "Loon". Fines and jail time may be assessed.***

## 2025 Membership Report

### By Dave Maxson and Jeff Dahlberg

ALPOA ended 2024 with **87** members, which is right on the average for the past several years.

#### **We'd like to do even better.**

As I write this (May 10) there are only **54** in the fold so far for 2025. Thanks to all of you. Alas, there are a number out there who've paid for membership in the recent past but not yet for 2025. I hope you'll use the form at the end of this newsletter to do so. If you haven't been inclined to pay for membership before, I hope you'll consider it. Our only purpose is to promote and protect the natural pristine quality of our lake, which benefits **all** lakefront property owners. For example, our primary focus in recent years has been to monitor and prepare for the identification of invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil. It behooves everyone to share in that concern, because if it gets a foothold our lake will never be the same. Please join us!!!



#### **HELP WANTED!**

Volunteering with ALPOA does not necessarily mean a 3 year obligation with endless summer meetings. **You can help out.** It is our hope that our members will be willing to give a few hours of their time for specific purposes.

#### **Some examples:**

- ★ Helping set up for the annual meeting (30 minutes before meeting time)
- ★ Helping to remove land based invasive plants (work day during the fall)
- ★ Helping to put out the loon nest (end of April/May)
- ★ Helping to stamp/stuff envelopes for the newsletter send out (middle of May)

We would like to make a list of people who are willing to participate in short term jobs. Sign up at the Annual Meeting or if you are interested please contact the president, Jeff Dahlberg, at [president@annlake.org](mailto:president@annlake.org) We will notify you as jobs come up during the summer via Email to see if you are available to help out.



## 2025 Events Committee By Maggie Sowers

### Annual Meeting for ALPOA

**Saturday, June 21, 2025**

**10am-12pm at Almira Township Hall (big white building on Maple St, across from Burnett Park, Lake Ann Village)**

The ALPOA Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, June 21 at 10:00 AM. Coffee, donuts and healthy snacks will be served. Our guest speaker is Nicholas O. Roster, PhD, a Biology Instructor at NMC in Traverse City. He will be speaking to us about ongoing research into microplastics in our water systems. We encourage all ALPOA members to attend. It is your best opportunity to give feedback and to learn about the progress your organization has made since last summer. The meeting is open to the public and we especially ask that members invite their neighbors and friends.

### Annual Boat Parade

**Friday, July 4, 2025**

**1pm**

The Annual Boat Parade and decorating contest will be held as always on Friday, July 4, at 1:00 PM. We will meet over the sand bar in the middle of the lake. The lead boat will have the ALPOA sign posted on its' side. We cruise around the lake celebrating the holiday and showing off our pride in country. The Boat Decorating Contest, sponsored by ALPOA, is again themed "Anything Americana". Congratulations to 2024 winners. 2024 winners were *Hot Dogs* (1st prize), *American Pastimes* (2nd prize) and *USA red, white, blue* (3rd prize). All were true representations of our country. Many boats had festive Fourth of July themes with banners and flags. Judges will base their decisions on creativity and originality. Prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. All are welcome to join in the fun, with or without decorations. We want this to be a fun, family friendly event. We ask you to please avoid any politically based or contentious themes.

Many thanks to our **2024** gift contributors. This summer, make sure you purchase items from Lake Ann Brewery, Stone Oven, The Bread Lady, Corner Cone and Papa J's Pizza and thank them personally for their support of ALPOA.



### Lake Ann Homecoming Days

**Saturday, July 12, 2025**

**Time: 9am-2pm**

ALPOA will be represented at a booth at the Lake Ann Homecoming Days. Look for us in the Lake Ann Village at the Burnett Park event. Stop by for a chat with your ALPOA Board members. Enter a raffle to win a free ALPOA hat (no obligation to join).

Come and learn about our lake, invasive species, water quality and more. Hope to see you all there.

# 2025 Invasive Species Report

## by Jeff Dahlberg

Our lake continues to enjoy the enviable status of having no known aquatic invasive plants present. Our last mid-summer [survey](#) done by our professional lake management firm, PLM, confirmed this status once again last year. This year we will be surveyed again as we stay ever vigilant. Members of our committee do two annual surveys in addition to the one by PLM. Members survey for Starry Stonewort in the fall and Curley Leaf Pondweed in the late spring. Last year, both surveys were negative.

Though we did not have any invasive aquatic species last year, we did have two land-based invasive species show up around the lake. The first and most aggressive was Purple Loosestrife [*Lythrum salicaria*]. It is considered an invasive plant species around our lakes, and you should take steps to try to safely remove the plant. Purple loosestrife has what many consider to be beautiful flowers (see picture below), but these flowers can produce up to 2.5 million, black pepper sized seed per plant. This is just one strategy that the plant uses to spread. Therefore, the first step in removing the plant should be to bag and tape the flowers. A second mechanism for spreading itself is through its' production of rhizomes. These occur below the ground and are capable of producing shoots that will produce another plant. So, just bagging and cutting the plant does not prevent it from spreading. If you can safely dig out as much of the plant, root, and rhizomes as possible this is the best strategy for trying to control its' spread. Lastly, after you have removed the plant, make sure to label the garbage bag so that you can safely place it in your garbage can for removal. Last year we had a group of volunteers contact homeowners and helped them remove roughly 70 garbage bags of purple loosestrife, so please stay vigilant this year. The second invasive was identified in the Almira Township Park in Lake Ann. PLM, which does an annual inspection identified an outbreak of Phragmites [*Phragmites australis*]. Like purple loosestrife, this plant spreads both by seed and rhizomes. As this occurred in the Park, ALPOA contacted Mark Roper with the Almira Township, and he responded back that the township would get their crew to monitor and remove this. We will follow up with Mark on this. Just be aware that it is around. One other note on invasives. Please note that I did not include the word species here! Dr. Nick Roster and his students at Northwestern Michigan College have been sampling the Boardman-Ottoway river system and have detected microplastics. They are expanding their research efforts to the Platte River watershed, so you might see some students sampling along the rivers and lakes in and around Lake Ann. We will keep you informed as to what they find, but it does not look good based on their finding in the Boardman-Ottoway (<https://www.nmc.edu/about/nmc-stories/success-stories/2023/student-research-microplastics.html>).

The committee will continue to support the ALPOA booth at Lake Ann Days informing visitors to the booth how to identify invasive plants and what to do if found. I'm looking for new volunteers to work on the committee. We desperately need new members to take over the tasks that exist, while mentors are still active and able to train and advise new members. We ask for new committee volunteers every year in these newsletters and get nary a nibble. It has now become critical to our mission to re-staff with new, younger individuals while we have such a fine, unspoiled lake to pass off to the next generation. Help me keep this committee strong and active in protecting our lake. This is a very active committee, getting outside and making a difference. If you are interested, please write to: [invasives@annlake.org](mailto:invasives@annlake.org)



MAY 15, 2025

## ANN LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



### Membership Application Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2025

*Thank you for your continued support! The mission and purpose of the Association are to preserve Ann Lake as a natural resource and recreational area through protection and prudent use of its environs.*

*A Voting member is limited to person(s) who own property on, or have deeded legal access, to the lake. An Associate member is now available to person(s) or entities who **do not** own waterfront property on the lake but have an interest in, and desire to support the stated purposes of the association. Associate members are entitled to receive all communications and participate in discussion of issues but shall not have a vote in official business.*

*Please use this membership application when sending in your dues and/or donation. We would appreciate it if you'd give us your winter, summer, and e-mail addresses, along with your name.*

New \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

	Voting Member	Associate Member
2025 Yearly Membership Dues	\$ ____ \$30.00	\$ ____ \$15.00
2026 Yearly Membership Dues	\$ ____ \$30.00	\$ ____ \$15.00
2027 Yearly Membership Dues	\$ ____ \$30.00	\$ ____ \$15.00
Michigan Riparian Magazine	\$ ____ \$14 per year required for subscription	
Lake Preservation Fund*	\$ ____	\$ ____

**Total Amount Paid** \$ \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_

\*Lake Preservation Funds are a reserve designated for the expenses of detection and prevention of an invasive species invading Ann Lake.

### Please Print Information:

Owner's Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Summer Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Ann, MI 49650  
E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my Newsletter first class mailed to me: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ It will be emailed

I would like to volunteer with ALPOA: Yes \_\_\_\_ Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Mail form and check to: ALPOA P.O. Box 184 Lake Ann, MI 49650**

Dues and donations are not tax deductible. ALPOA is a 501c4 non-profit corporation but not deemed a "charitable" organization by IRS definition.