



Alligator & Inspiration

“It’s All About the Water”

Summer 2015

A Message From the President (of the GLA) Denny Becker

I’m writing this letter about 4 weeks after the “Storm of 2015”. We’ve all seen pictures of similar disasters on TV, but the next day we forget about them and move on with our daily lives. Unfortunately, this is not the case with our storm. We’ll be feeling its implications for years to come. Our hearts especially go out to those individuals whose properties were most impacted.



While the events of the past several weeks can be numbing, we can be proud and take comfort in how this community has come together during this crisis, offering support both to our neighbors as well as complete strangers. The core values of the people who live and vacation here give us every confidence in our ability to rebuild and restore this area. Your Association looks forward to working with you.

Knowing that many members have questions about handling downed trees and restoring their properties, the Association sponsored a Tree Seminar on August 29th at the Glen Arbor Township Hall. The seminar was attended by over 200 people with a panel of three professionals answering questions from the audience. Important “take aways” from the seminar are summarized in this newsletter, and the entire seminar can be listened to on line. (See the seminar link on the Glen Lake Association web site.) There were also several questions about what plans the National Park Service has for damage on its properties and concerns were expressed about the growing fire hazard, given the amount of brush and downed trees on parkland properties. We have sent a letter to the NPS on these issues and will share its response with you when it is received.

I would like to compliment the membership on their terrific response to the launch of the Glen Lake Guardian Program. As of early September we have 171 Guardian members. We will continue to improve and expand this program next year, including opportunities for business membership. If you’re not a Guardian, please consider joining the program. (You can enroll on-line on our web site.) If you’re already a Guardian member, please display your decal proudly to demonstrate your stewardship commitment and to encourage others to join. Protecting our watershed is even more important given the events of the last several weeks.

Before closing I would like to recognize our four new members to the GLA Board--David Hayes, Sue Lake, Ranae Ihme, and Harvey Warburton. This group brings significant expertise in many important areas including finance, management, legal, and business acumen. I also would like to recognize and thank those members who have retired from the board---Ann Davey, John Kassarjian, Mike Litch, and Sue Nichols. Their contributions are too long to list but please know they are deeply appreciated. Also special thanks to the Nominating Committee, which always does such an excellent job in finding qualified, new board members. Have a great Fall. If you have suggestions on ways the GLA can help with restoration efforts, please let us know. We’re always looking for new ideas on ways we can help and support our membership.

*The Glen Lake Association, Inc. is a non-profit
organization dedicated to the protection, preservation
and continued improvement of the beautiful Glen Lake area.*



Karner's Korner

Swimmer's Itch Update

In an effort to reduce swimmer's itch, the GLA will once again patrol the shorelines of our lakes during the fall and spring for Common Mergansers. Once mergansers (and only mergansers) are located, harassment techniques will be employed using pyrotechnics in an effort to deter mergansers from loafing on any particular shoreline and to encourage them to leave our lakes and fly to Lake Michigan. Weather permitting, these patrols will occur multiple times each week within the mid-September to early November and mid-April to late May time frames.

We are concerned about the number of merganser broods that found a home on Glen Lake this year. There were three broods, which means significantly more Mergansers could be looking to nest on our lakes in 2016. This is a significant increase, and we are pursuing all options in an effort to reduce the Swimmer's Itch threat for next summer.

The GLA is working closely with a new state-wide organization called the Michigan Swimmer's Itch Partnership. This new organization will be seeking state funding (\$900,000) to support research and control measures for the GLA and three other Northern Michigan Lakes to reduce swimmer's itch. If our proposed initiatives are funded, the GLA may be in line to receive funding for three years for live trapping and relocating common merganser broods, determining snail infection rates in our snails, researching anti-itch creams, and performing an economic study of how swimmer's itch affects commerce in our area.

GLA is committed to being open to any and all options that will break the life cycle of swimmer's itch in a legal, ecological, and environmentally responsible manner. In the upcoming October GLA board meeting, there will be a presentation and discussion with SiCon, Inc. (world leaders in the field of swimmer's itch) where we will learn as much as we can about the current research, control measures, and education that has recently come from their efforts on Higgins Lake during the summer of 2015. We will have more to report on this important discussion in the next newsletter. While hunting Mergansers is a possible option, there are no plans by the GLA to support hunting of Mergansers on Glen Lake.

As always, help us track the number and severity of swimmer's itch cases by logging into the www.swimmersitch.org website.

Hatlem Pond Update

Now that the dredge has been completed and a year has passed, my observations, along with many others along the southwest shore of Big Glen indicate that overall, the dredge was a success. Just a week ago, we had a five-inch rain event and very little sediment transport occurred into Glen Lake! Also, we sampled the pond for oxygen content and found the newly dredged pond is supporting healthy oxygen readings thereby eliminating the need to install bubblers. Healthy oxygen levels will translate into the fact that when new sediment comes into the pond, it will be biodegraded. In turn, that translates into extending the time towards the next "maintenance" dredge in the future.

With regard to Hatlem Pond dam, preliminary plans are to make necessary repairs to the dam along with engaging an engineering firm to perform a hydrological study of the pond to determine if the dam can hold up well if a 100-year rain event were ever to occur. The owner of the dam will be making the repairs and the GLA will be assisting as needed to ensure this important work will be completed by winter.

Submarine Study

This summer, the GLA worked with Northwest Michigan College School of Freshwater Studies to determine what might be happening at the deep basin of Big Glen. Recent years indicate that the oxygen levels at the deep basin are very low for extended periods of time in the late summer and most of the fall season. It was hypothesized that there may be large mats of algae rotting at the bottom of the lake along with the possibility of a large quagga mussel population. It appears that neither of these two issues are present at the current time based on the video footage of the camera attached to the unmanned submarine. This is good news. It also appears that the lack of oxygen at the bottom during the summer/fall season is not as bad as a few years ago.

Support the Guardian Program

As your watershed biologist, I would encourage you to take the "pledge to protect" if you have not done so already. If you have signed up, then encourage your neighbors to pledge their support also. We are off to a great start but need to realize that it is only a start. Our goal would be to have twice the number of guardians as we have now by the next annual meeting.

2015 Glen Lake Guardians



The Guardian Program successfully kicked off this summer with an announcement in the GLA Newsletter followed by direct mailings to all lake / river riparians and rental companies. The purpose of the program is to promote practices that all of us and our visitors can do that will help protect our lakes and river. Listed below are some of the 171 Guardians who “took the pledge” and received their decals. The Guardians chose a respectable average of 11 out of the 16 pledge activities. Overall, we are extremely happy with the results. Next year we will be expanding our Guardians by inviting non-riparian residents, businesses and visitors within our watershed.

Bruce and Christie Alton
GT and Jill Aylsworth
Tom and Kathy Aylsworth
David Bahr
John and Dorothy Barker
Patrick and Cheryl Barry
Bill and Nancy Batterson
Bill and Gwen Baxter
Jack and Renee Beam
Denny and Carole Becker
Jim and Lynn Becker
Greg and Mike Binsfeld
David and Chari Binstadt
Bob and Felicia Bloom
Dave and Lynn Bohmer
Bob and T Boles
Barbara Braly
Dick and Gay Budinger
Brig and Merrill Buettner
Chuck and Susan Cady
Charlie and Mary Carpenter
Dave and Cara Cassard
Jim Chormann
Richard and Carolyn Chormann
Ron Coats
John and Katherine Collins
Ron and Peggy Creten
Betsy Crowe
Rod and Marti Daniel
John and Ann Davey
Rodger Davis
Jeanine Dean
Dale and Meg DeJager
John and Pam DePuy
Jeffrey and Mary Dixon
Maureen Doran
Jim and Velma Dorsey

Andy and Olivia DuPont
Jim and Ann Dykstra
Charles and Margaret Emery
Tom and Juli Erdmann
George and Anne Faulstich
Bob and Barb Fehrmann
Paul and Mary Finnegan
Brian and Sara Flynn
Fred and Karen Ford
Ronald and Charlotte Fornowski
Bill and Janice Freeman
Judy and Jim Freeman
Mary Frixen
David and Penelope Gordon
Jon and Gloria Graber
Scott and Ellen Gravelie
Barb and Pete Haley
Jeff and Diane Hamilton
David and Susan Haughn
David and Ginny Hayes
Tom and Gail Herendeen
David Heringhaus
David and Maureen Herr
Jim and Bunny Hickey
John and Shirley Hoagland
Kay Hughes
Douglas Hutchison
Bruce and Judi Jacobs
Michael and Susan Jacoby
Jeffrey Janata
Ros Jennings
David and Laurel Jeris
Brad and Kristen Johnson
Harvey and Amy Johnson
Jay and Betsy Johnson
Chad and Kari Kahler
Dick and Lynn Kamps

Jim and Sue Kaneaster
Vahan and Mary Karian
Rob and Barb Karner
Mike and Mary Kasperek
John and Carolyn Kassarian
Barbara Kelly
Susan Kettering
Cal and Nancy Killen
David and Gail Komendera
Joan Kramps
Larry and Anne Krawczak
Stan and Lorraine Kuk
Jack and Hope Laitala
Joe and Sue Lake
Robert and Linda Lanphier
Bruce and Anne Lichliter
Cathy Linson
Mike and Sarah Litch
John and Barb Lund
Michael and Lori Lyman
Anne Magoun
Jody Marquis
Leonard Marszalek
Robert and Janet Marth
Joseph and Lorraine Mathes
Brad and Leah McArthur
Woody McCally
Michael and Kenna McDonald
Steve and Kathy McShane
Bill and Susanne Meserve
Rob and Judy Meyer
Ann Meyers
Keith and Elaine Miller
Pat and Nancy Miller
Robert and Annabel Moore
Jerry and Debbie Morawski
Julie Morris

continued...

2015 Glen Lake Guardians, continued

Sallyanne Morris and Jim Folz
 Thomas and Pauline Myers
 Bob and Mary Jane Novak
 George and Marilyn Nugent
 Charles and Sara Ofenloch
 Carl and Jackie Oleson
 Charles Patton
 Gerald and Janice Peer
 Roy and Elaine Pentilla
 Neil and Heather Peplinski
 Janet Pepler
 Frank and Marie Pfeifer
 Denis and Martha Pierce
 Randy and Sheila Potter
 Suzanne Pugh
 George and Carol Quarderer

Barry Ranisck
 Mark and Karen Reder
 John and Ginny Rockwood
 Marcia Rose
 Richard and Barbara Schilling
 Rick Schilling
 Duane and Chris Shugart
 Daniel and Linda Silvasi
 Larry and Delores Simms
 Dean and Millie Smith
 Pat Smith
 Jeffrey and Janet Spaeth
 John and Sita Spring
 Joanne Sprouse
 Bill and Cherrie Stege
 Edward and Paula Stewart

John Stewart
 Spiridon and Jean Suciuc
 Greg and Janice Suhajda
 Vik and Susan Theiss
 Tim and Sue Unger
 Charlie and Carolyn Wallace
 Harvey and Marilyn Warburton
 Roberta Waybrant
 Jean Weinheimer
 Mary Wells
 Chuck and Dorothy Wepking
 Laura Wiesen
 Bill and Rita Witler
 Thomas Yates

Names of Mike and Sarah Litch Added to the GLA Rock



The Glen Lake Association has a plaque on a large rock at the Crystal River Dam to honor members whose contributions have far exceeded the norm in volunteer efforts to preserve and protect the Glen Lake-Crystal River Watershed. This year the GLA was pleased to add Mike and Sarah Litch's names to this distinguished list of names on the rock.

Mike and Sarah have been dedicated to the GLA's mission since they became permanent residents here when they retired. Highlights of their many contributions include: over 15 years of water testing, 12 years on the GLA Board (including

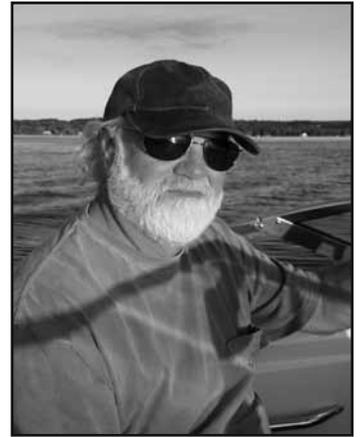
President), supervision and assisting in the 30 year old Cladophora studies, assistance with the boat wash program including obtaining grant monies for hot water spraying, development of the Landowners Handbook, championing several local ordinances to protect the water, and technical consulting and leadership with many clean water groups at the county, regional, and state level. We are very fortunate to have them living in our community. Importantly, they are not retiring from these efforts and continue to provide invaluable service to the GLA. Congratulations Mike and Sarah for a well deserved award and recognition!!





Stewardship Awards

Buzz Long is the Executive Director of the Leelanau Conservation District. For many years he and his staff have provided assistance to residents of the Glen Lake–Crystal River Watershed in the care and improvement of the quality of our land, water, air, plants and animals for the wise and sustainable use of our natural resources. Some of these services have included Greenbelt Development; shrub and native plant selections for purchase through the Conservation District each year; tree consultation for riparians regarding disease control and selection of new trees; invasive species surveys and control; sponsoring the Glen Lake Envirothons who do projects for us on our lakes; and a Michigan Watershed Steward Program. Buzz received the 2008 Leelanau Conservancy Business Supporter Award for his work in the area. We thank you Buzz for your many years of expertise and care of our environment.



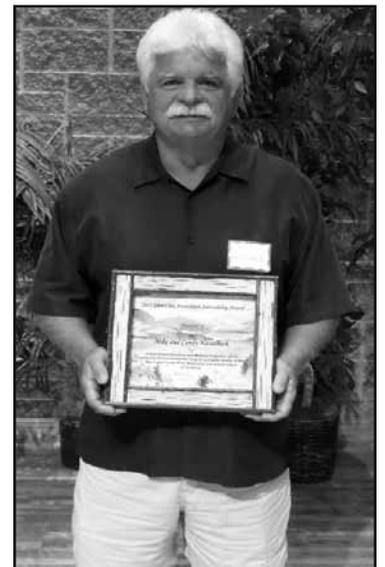
T and Bob Boles after building a new house on Glen Lake have followed the “best practice” for sustaining the integrity and quality of our lakes by keeping a natural shoreline and planting a beautiful greenbelt garden adjacent to the vegetated buffer strip. The Boles have a totally natural shoreline and anticipate more interesting plants to emerge in the vegetated buffer strip (greenbelt) through the years. In back of the natural shoreline they have decreased the amount of lawn they have with landscaping done by Anita Silverman to accommodate a fire ring, seating, a path, and many plantings. Their plan is to do the same type of landscaping for the other half of their frontage to double the amount of their shoreline naturalization. Their yard is beautifully landscaped. We thank you for the care of our watershed.



Candy and Mike Hasselbeck on Fisher Lake built their house for the optimum preservation of their beautiful wetland and natural shoreline. Instead of building in the wetland they sited their house to the front of their property. Mike built a winding boardwalk through the wetland with a small area near the lake for a dock, deck and wood chips which allow for a swing, kayaks, and additional activities. They have tastefully placed garden art along the boardwalk. The front of their house has been extensively landscaped by Candy with a fountain, garden art and a wide variety of plants. Their property has been featured in many University State Extension publications as a model for responsible stewardship in a watershed. We thank you for the care of our watershed.

In case you missed the workshop, here is the link to YouTube where you can watch most of the workshop online.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95fu4GKseBg>



15 Suggested Post Storm Guidelines

Also, listed below are some highlights and suggested guidelines for your review and consideration.

Highlights Compiled By Rob Karner, Watershed Biologist
Glen Lake Association

- Take your time. Don't be in a rush to implement a plan without careful consideration of a successful plan. This is not a race to see who restores their property first.
- Do not burn accumulated brush – rather, chip it and use it as mulch as a way to prevent forest fires
 - If trees were destroyed on or near a septic tank or drain field, have your septic hauler do an inspection. If the septic system has been damaged, have it repaired as soon as possible
 - Whenever possible, leave stumps/root balls. They are your “starter kit” for natural restoration. If removal is required or desired, grind the stump as a second choice and as a last resort, dig out the stump and haul it away.
 - You must obtain a permit from the MDEQ when removing tree stumps within 100 feet of the shoreline. Give strong consideration to leaving stumps at the water's edge and plant around them.
 - Treat trees with bark or limb damage with a coating to prevent insect disease. (Foresters differ with this – just another layer for the tree to heal over and it doesn't allow the cells to compartmentalize and dry out which is desired.)
 - Successful restoration includes planting a variety of tree species that will do well in Northern Michigan
 - Ideally, plant trees in the spring or fall and plan on providing each tree with plenty of water during the acclimation phase of the planting process
 - Work together with neighbors to help with clean up costs and the sale of timber for lumber to ensure the best leverage for bartering power. .
 - Take every effort to prevent erosion – especially on land with a slope. Mulch bare soils in the early going with chipped brush or bark mulch.
 - Consider landscaping with a Northern Michigan “look” vs. the suburban “look”.
 - Take advantage of native plant/tree sales in the spring and fall at the Leelanau County Conservation District. Stay tuned to the Glen Lake Association website where we will post the dates and locations of these native plant sales.
 - Take care not to over fertilize plantings in the first and second years of growth and to wean plants off any fertilizers in the third and subsequent years. Only use zero phosphate fertilizers within 100 feet of the shoreline.
 - Re-growth of plants/trees will take time before you see measurable results and to understand that your property will likely be much different that it was prior to the storm.
 - To avoid “blue stain fungus” from damaging your lumber logs, only cut trees from their stumps when your ready to process/sell the logs. This avoids having sellable logs be down graded for quality and thus, reduce their value.
 - The Farm Services Agency administers the Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP). It looks like the county level FSA administers it for all natural disasters other than drought and insects. More info about the program is at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/emergency-forest-restoration/>
 - Landowners should also be able to apply for financial assistance through the normal EQIP programs at their county NRCS office.
 - Seek advice and help from professionals – either a forester, arborist, landscape architect, landscape installer, permit specialist from the MDEQ, or watershed biologist.

2015 GLA Legends



Rita and Bill Witler, Tom Dutmers, T and Bob Boles, Sumner and Irene Bagby, Rob and Barb Karner, Cara and Dave Cassard, Denny and Carole Becker, John Pepler. Missing from photo are Monica Dutmers and Bill and Susanne Meserve.

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Testimony From a Legend - David Herr

I was asked to share why Maureen and I decided to become “Legends”, naming the Glen Lake Association (GLA) a beneficiary of our estate. The throw away answer is that you get a cool wall clock and nifty yellow GLA caps if you leave money to GLA. The true answer began to form about 35 years ago when our family first visited the Glen Lake area. We vacationed at the Homestead for a few years and then rented at Dunns Farm for about 16 years. We purchased property in 2001. We are now retired and live half the year on Glen Lake. Obviously we love Glen Lake, as do our children and grandchildren. The beauty of the watershed is fabulous. We wish to do what we can to preserve the nature of this unique place and protect the value of the investment in our home on Glen Lake.

In our mind, the GLA provides the vehicle to protect our favorite place in the world. In our early years around Glen Lake we were not very aware of what the GLA does. But as we learned about the many activities and the vast volunteer effort that is constantly taking place we began to appreciate that the GLA is a “world class” organization dedicated to looking after this fragile watershed. We believe we can assist the GLA in its effort by volunteering our time and by providing financial support. Plus, you get a cool wall clock and nifty yellow GLA caps.

Glen Lake Association News

Calendar of Important Events

October 2 Hazardous Waste Collection* (Elmwood Twp.)

Monthly (3rd Thursday) Leelanau Clean Water

November 19: Chris Otto, National Park Service, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Lake Michigan "Cladophora Study Update" and Carolan Sonderegger, Biologist, Grand Traverse Band, "Water Quality Testing in Leelanau County and Other Environmental Programs

9-11:00 a.m., Leelanau County Government Center, 8527 E Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay.

(See www.glenlakeassociation.org/calendar for details on these activities)

Speed Limits

Every summer, Glen Lake residents have brought to the attention of the leadership of the GLA their concern that the speed limits on the roads surrounding both Big and Little Glen are too high. This is an issue that has been brought up before, with little success in getting the speed limits reduced. With traffic increasing due to much higher tourist numbers, a committee has been formed to study the issue again and look for solutions that might help solve this problem. The committee will reach out to both county and state agencies to ask for their help. If you would like to be involved in this effort, please contact Bob Boles, a member of the GLA board. Bob's e-mail is rsboles@aol.com.

Attention Members!

If you did not receive email announcements from the GLA this summer and wish to be added to our list, please send your NAME and EMAIL ADDRESS to glenlakeassociation@gmail.com. Unfortunately, our membership database cannot be synced with the program used to send announcements, so we need this information in order to keep our members informed. Thank you!!

Glen Lake Association Volunteer

John Kassarjian has been a Glen Lake summer resident since 1965. His wife Carolyn, who introduced John to the area, has family ties to the lake that go back many years before that. John is a registered professional engineer and was a technical manager with the Marathon Oil Company and subsequently worked as a petroleum refining consultant. John's professional work involved assignments in fifteen countries with Marathon and as a consultant. While John admits most of these assignments were interesting and gratifying, he feels nothing has compared with his involvement with the GLA and especially the Water Level Committee. John has been able to apply his vast engineering background to help find solutions to our water level issues and to keep the lake level where it is suppose to be. John especially enjoys the camaraderie of those on the Water Level Committee. John has been married to his wife Carolyn for 51 years. They have 4 children, 9 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. John says he enjoys watching the water flowing over the dam and knowing he has had a part in keeping the lake and the river levels balanced. It's not an easy job. Thanks John for all you do for the Glen Lake Association!



Glen Lake Association News

Leelanau Conservancy Announces Plan to Create Palmer Woods Forest Reserve

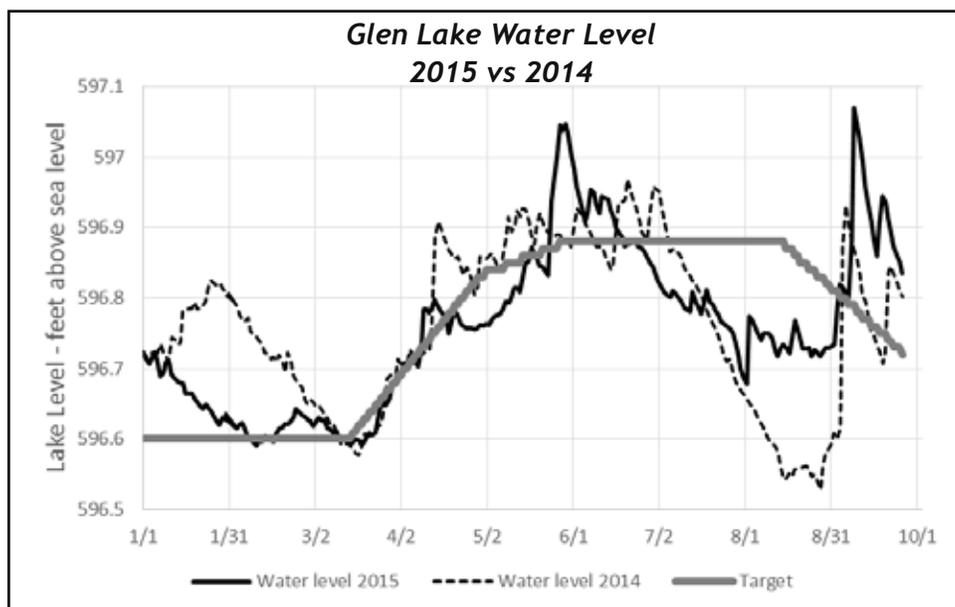
This summer the Leelanau Conservancy announced plans to permanently protect a 700 acre tract of forested land located in the hills on the north east side of Big Glen Lake. The project, known as the Palmer Woods Forest Reserve, is extremely important to Glen Lake. The majority of the acreage is located within the Glen Lake watershed, so this area will be permanently protected from commercial development while playing an important role in preserving and protecting water quality. The Reserve will be designed to provide miles of trails for the public to enjoy in all four seasons and allow ecologically sustainable forestry to strengthen the existing hardwood forest.

The Conservancy is currently accepting donations and hopes to complete the purchase near the end of the year. The plan is to open this new natural area up to the public in 2016. See <http://leelanauconservancy.org> to learn more about the project.

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A Message From the Water Level Committee

Your Water Level Committee has had a less stressful year than normal (so far) as we manage the water level as much as nature allows. The lake level has been closer to target than years gone past. As shown in the graph below, 2014, a typical year, had higher levels in the winter and lower levels in the summer. This summer, rains came earlier. We usually don't get significant rains until September first. But remember the Great Storm of August 2? That added an inch, and subsequent rains kept the lake higher than normal. Even so, during summer, while running the Crystal River at its lowest level, the lake usually drops below comfortable levels for a lot of boaters. Evaporation and underground losses to Lake Michigan account for more water loss than the flow over the Crystal River dam.





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Fall 2015

GLEN LAKE ASSOCIATION 2014-2015

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Watershed Biologist	Rob Karner
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