

INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT

Congratulations Vicky Boots/ Welcome Abbi Hastings

Happy 2019! What a year 2018 has been! Vicky Boots retired after 28 years working for the Indian Lake Watershed Project. The ILWP thanks her for all she has done for Indian Lake and the surrounding watershed. Thanks Vicky!

In April, Abbi Hastings was hired as the new Watershed Coordinator. After growing up in Hardin County, Abbi went to The Ohio State University where she received a degree in Agriculture Systems Management and a minor in Soil Science. She has a background in conservation having worked for the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Seneca County Soil and Water Conservation District and Wyandot County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Abbi spent many summers camping at the Indian Lake State Park. She even learned how to swim in Indian Lake! She is very excited to be a part of the Indian Lake Watershed Project and looking forward to working with our partners, landowners, businesses and volunteers to continue keeping Indian Lake healthy and beautiful.

2019 Indian Lake Watershed Project Officers

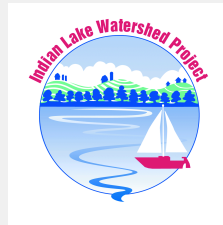
During the November 2018 board meeting, the ILWP confirmed the new slate of 2019 Officers: Frank Dietz as President, Frank Phelps as President Elect and Dave Leiter as Treasurer/Secretary. Congratulations to all!

Sharon DeVault steps down as the Board President after serving two years. In her own words,

“To the ILWP Board, Committees, Volunteers and Stakeholders, glad I could help and Thank You for allowing me to. The ILWP was challenged with many changes and opportunities in 2017 and 2018. Here we are in our 29th year of ‘Improving Indian Lake, One Drop at a Time’.”

Thank you Sharon for your service to the Board and all the volunteering you do for the lake!

WINTER 2019



ILWP Floating Treatment Wetland

If you drove past the Moundwood boat ramp or walked around Pew Island this summer and fall, you may have noticed some new additions to Indian Lake. Two Floating Treatment Wetlands (FTW) were installed in the lake in early June.

The FTWs were planted with only Native Ohio wetland plants. By doing so there was no chance of spreading invasive species. The plants were placed in special cups that allow the roots to reach the water. The cups and plants are then placed into holes on a large rubber mat. This makes up the FTW.

So how do they actually help? Like a natural wetland FTW plants act like filters taking up excess nutrients and other pollutants that find their way into the lake. The massive root systems develop a sticky bio-film that helps trap sediments and nutrients as they float by. These plants and root systems can also provide habitats for plants and other water creatures: see above picture (snake).

In 2019 both wetlands will be back in the lake. The smaller of the two wetlands will be filled with one species of wetland plant. Testing will be done throughout the spring/summer to determine how the plants absorb the nutrients. So keep your eye out for the Floating Treatment Wetlands in 2019!



Moundwood FTW in full bloom! (Bonus snake in bottom left)

AGRICULTURE NEWS

2018 Nashville Hitmaker Concert Recap

Thank you to the Indian Lake High School for hosting the 7th Annual Nashville Hitmakers Concert. On August 18th, country music fans and Indian Lake Watershed Project supporters came together for a night of music and entertainment. This years lineup was the best yet!

The Lineup!

Even Stevens who is well known to the area due to being an Alumni of Indian Lake High School played some of his most well known songs, including “When You’re In Love With A Beautiful Woman” and “I Love A Rainy Night”.

Mike Loudermilk was back this year to wow us with his amazing guitar skills. He even played the song he wrote just for us, “Sunset on Indian Lake”. Its always a popular song with this crowd!

James Slater wrote “In My Daughter’s Eyes” and the official theme song to Key West, Florida, “Key West Address”. He was awesome, using the high school's own piano!

Alison Prestwood rocked the stage as our bass guitarist. She has been nominated four times for the ACM Bass Player of the Year and Blake Shelton’s “Austin” was the first song that she played to reach number one on the charts.

Jason White is an Ohio born guitarist/singer/writer. He was awarded the BMI song of the year for “Red Ragtop” and was originally the lead singer of an Ohio band, The Janglers.

Dean Dillon is most well known for this song “Tennessee Whiskey”. Recently there was a documentary about his life titled the same. In 2002 he was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

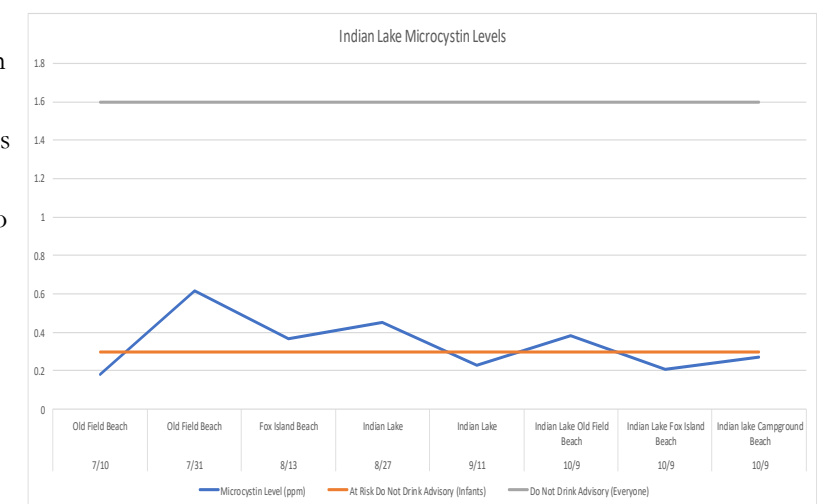
Thank you to all who came out to enjoy the show and support the Indian Lake Watershed Project. Your support keeps the Watershed Project alive and able to provide more help and conservation projects to Indian Lake. Stay tuned for upcoming news this Spring/Summer for the Saturday, August 17, 2019 Concert!

Harmful Algae Bloom Monitoring Report

Indian Lake Watershed Project tests for microcystin in multiple points around Indian Lake. Microsystin is the toxin that is produced during a Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB). These blooms are caused by an excess of nutrients available in the water. Nutrients enter the lake from many different sources. Agricultural, urban, industrial and infrastructural areas have all been know to contribute to nutrient pollution.

The amount of microcystin is measured in parts per million (ppm). At 0.0-0.3 ppm the water is still considered safe from microcystin. 0.3-1.6 ppm is not to drink for infants or people with compromised immune systems, 1.6-6.0 ppm is dangerous for anyone to be consuming, 6.0-20 ppm is a public health advisory and can be dangerous if it comes in contact with your skin, and anything above 20 ppm is a elevated public heath advisory and is very dangerous to people and animals.

In 2018 the highest the microsystin level ever reached was 0.615 ppm. Considering all the rain that washed more nutrients into the lake in the spring and early summer this is pretty good. In 2019 ILWP will continue to monitor Indian Lake for microsystin and finding more projects to keep nutrient pollution from getting into the lake in the first place.



Microcystin Levels in Indian Lake 2018

NRCS/ ILWP Cover Crops

In 2018 the Logan County Natural Resource Conservation Service received special funding for an Indian Lake Watershed Cover Crop Initiative through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Only landowners within the Indian Lake Watershed could apply for this Federal Program. The funding would help pay for cover crops and variable rate nutrient management systems that address water quality.

There were nine applicants in 2018, five from Hardin County and four from Logan County. Three of these contracts were approved for funding. These conservation practices covered 1,012 acres in the Indian Lake Watershed, with a total of \$208,331 obligated to the watershed.

This program will continue in 2019. All the funding will stay in the Indian Lake Watershed and be used for more cover crops and variable rate nutrient systems. All the approved contracts will address water quality issues. These programs are a great way for farmers and landowners to take action to improve water quality.



Membership/Donation Form

INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

(City) (State) (Zip)

Annual Dues Only \$ 15.00
Endowment \$ _____
Education \$ _____
Scholarship \$ _____
General \$ _____
Weed Harvester \$ _____
Monitoring \$ _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____

Email address for future newsletters: _____

Make your check payable to: Indian Lake Watershed Project
324 Co. Rd. 11
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

Indian Lake Watershed Project
324 County Road 11
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**FACEBOOK: INDIAN LAKE
WATERSHED PROJECT**

WEB:
INDIANLAKEWATERSHED.COM

Indian Lake Facts!

- Indian Lake Watershed is 63,122 acres or 97 square miles
- The lake itself is 5,147 acres or 8 square miles
- In the past 28 years ILWP has reduced the sediment flow into the lake from 80,000 tons per year to 15,000 tons per year
- ILWP has been working to care for the lake since 1990
- The little green plants that float on top of the water are not algae, they are a non-toxic native plant called duckweed
- A watershed is an area where all the water that falls or flows on the surface drains to the same area
- The lake is so clean that we now have a weed problem and a weed harvester
- Water Quality is the ILWPs top priority
- Memberships are only \$15 a year and helps keep us involved in the health of Indian Lake

INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT
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BELLEFONTAINE, OH 43311



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