

Little Saint Germain Lake News
April, 2019

As a lake district, we would like to try something new to see how it goes. Every quarter, we will try to provide some information which is current as well as a stock article or two which may be of some interest to lakeshore owners. In this installment, we will raise an issue concerning the Lower East Bay aeration system. The second article deals with a concern brought to our attention at the last annual meeting. In many ways, this second piece can refer to other recreational boating as well as the deep wake boats. Finally, I found this article on shore land lighting. This brief newsletter will be e-mailed to those of you who have given us your e-mail addresses. It will also be put on our website. Hopefully, you will find this informative and enjoyable. Besides, it is part of our lake plan to create further awareness! Thanks! I hope you are enjoying the spring. Tom Groth, Chair.

East Bay Aeration Issues

In early February of 2017, our aeration contractor noticed that the East Bay system was working, but the lake was closed in the marked area. There was an open water area leading to the marked area. A diver was contracted and they investigated the issue. They found that a pipe that feeds the main aeration area was hit by a propeller and damaged. They repaired the break after some time. The cost was \$750 to the diver and \$452 for the contractor. The lake was closed and iced over for about two weeks.

In early February of 2019, he found the same issue. The same diver was called and they made a repair. The cost was \$550 for the diver. This time the lake was only iced over for a week.

A suggestion was made that a marker buoy should be placed there

to keep boats from hitting the pipe since it is so close to the surface. The contractor indicated that there is already a buoy there. It is several hundred feet from the shore on the “hump” of the lake bottom.



OPEN LETTER TO ALL WAKESURFERS & WAKEBOARDERS

In many parts of the country, wakesurfing and wakeboarding is currently under attack. “Ballasted boats” are on the radar, with claims of shoreline erosion, property damage, noise complaints and other conflicts that can result in banning wake sports. If our actions are inconsiderate and our voice is not heard, the chances of losing our favorite activity go up considerably. Fortunately, you can do something about it and we need your help.

Repetitive passes, loud music and driving too close to shore are the main reasons why we are seeing problems. Furthermore, personal conflicts between boat drivers and homeowners is pouring fuel on the fire.

WSIA (Water Sports Industry Association) is our industry’s non-profit group that exists to promote and protect all of the towed water sports. Through comprehensive testing and evaluation of wave science, talking with upset homeowners and listening to enthusiasts, WSIA is providing you with these three recommendations:

1.) STAY AT LEAST 150 FEET AWAY...

from shorelines, docks and other structures. Better yet, always wakesurf in the middle of the waterway, as far away as you can be from all shorelines. In many cases, you’ll find the wave shape is better in deeper water as well.

2.) KEEP MUSIC AT REASONABLE LEVELS

Sound travels well over water and loud noise (including offensive lyrics) is one of the biggest catalysts of conflicts between drivers and homeowners. Be especially considerate of peaceful times on the lake, during mornings and around sunset.

3.) MINIMIZE REPETITIVE PASSES...

on any one section of shoreline. This is also a big cause of conflict that will get your ballasted boat on the radar.

Please be proactive with this message and help us educate others on proper etiquette on the water so that we can enjoy wake sports for generations to come!

From Sensible Shoreland Lighting

Preserving the Beauty of the Night
By David Liebl and Robert Korth
University of Wisconsin - Extension, 2000

Tips for Shoreland Lighting

Sensible shoreland lighting does its intended job well, with minimum adverse impact on neighbors and the environment:

- Provide adequate light for the intended task, but don't over-light. A full moon can make an area seem quite bright, and some modern lighting systems illuminate areas 100 times brighter than the full moon. Choose lights that meet your needs without lighting the entire neighborhood.
- Glare is both the most common lighting problem and one of the easiest to detect and fix. Glare can be eliminated by shielding light fixtures away from the water and neighboring property. Maximize their effectiveness on areas you want to illuminate, and minimize the adverse impact on adjoining property. Proper fixture position is very important. Even well-shielded fixtures, when placed on tall poles near the property boundary can cast light onto neighboring properties.
- Use full cut-off lighting fixtures to minimize glare. Full cut-off means that no light is emitted above the horizontal. Full cut-off fixtures are more effective and actually increase safety since they produce very little of the glare that can dazzle the eye and reduce our ability to see into the shadow.
- Retrofit existing fixtures with shields to reduce glare.
- Avoid dusk to dawn security lights. A more effective approach to security lighting is a motion detector. A moving person will be more noticeable to neighbors and residents when they are suddenly illuminated. Motion detectors must be carefully installed so that moving branches and small animals do not activate the lights.

Why Sensible Lighting Matters

Eliminating glare and light pollution saves money while reducing

our impact upon our neighbors and creatures of the night. The stars above us are a priceless heritage, not only for scientific knowledge, but also our identity as human beings. David Crawford, Executive Director of the International Dark Sky Association says: “Light pollution is not a matter of life and death. Yet it is important nonetheless, profoundly so. We human beings lose something of ourselves when we can no longer look up and see our place in the universe. It is like never again hearing the laughter of children; we give up part of what we are.”