

# KINDERHOOK LAKE CORPORATION



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# The KLC News



[kinderhooklakecorp.org](http://kinderhooklakecorp.org)

Winter 2019

## A Day in the Life ...



Since the Eco Harvester only has room for a single operator and no passengers, we thought it might be interesting to know what it's like to spend a day on the harvester. Thanks to Bill Cleary for his insight.

The day of harvesting starts with an hour to an hour and a half of machine preparation. It's the operator's responsibility to grease 22 fittings (must be completed every 10 hours of operation), check oil levels, check tension on the conveyor belts, and fill the tank with gas. The operator starts the harvester and operates it using a series of nine joysticks in the cockpit. The harvester is then moved to one of the many weed beds approved for harvesting by DEC. Harvesting locations may change during the day as ripples in the water from the wind or boat traffic and glare from the sun can often make it difficult to see the weeds in the water in front of the harvester. Before and after harvesting in each weed bed, the operator must drop a Secchi disk in the water to record the water clarity depth. The rotating drum and intake conveyor are then lowered into the water and harvesting begins with forward motion by the joysticks.

Depending on weed density, the harvester bed can be filled in as little as 20-30 minutes or may

take well over an hour. When the bed is full, the operator contacts the dump trailer driver and moves the harvester to one of the DEC approved offload locations around the lake. The rotating drum is moved out of the way, the conveyor belt is reversed and raised, and stanchions are lowered to the lake bed to stabilize the harvester during offloading into the dump trailer. Maneuvering to the offload location, offloading operations, and returning to the weed bed can take 30 minutes to an hour. When the dump trailer is filled (it can hold up to three harvester bed loads) it is driven to the DEC approved disposal facility on Rapp Road. Meanwhile, the harvester operator returns to a weed bed and repeats the process until he runs out of time.


After returning the harvester to the dock for the day, the operator must complete a one-page Harvesting Data Collection Form required by DEC, which includes the harvesting times and locations, water clarity depths, weather, quantity, volume, and type of weeds collected, sighting of fish or wildlife in the harvested weeds, and other assorted information.

Since the majority of harvesting is completed weekdays, it is most often limited by the lack of available dump trailer drivers. So, if you own a pickup truck, are available weekdays, and wish to volunteer to help with offloading and transporting weeds to the disposal site, please contact Dan Langer (518-221-8689), Steve Everett (518-610-8542) or Bill Cleary (518-784-3914). Having a long list of volunteer drivers would allow for additional harvesting time on the lake.

## **Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Public Information Meeting**

On Saturday, June 15th, the KLC will host a HABs Public Information Meeting at 10:00am at the KLIA Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to educate the community on how and why HABs form and how to deal with them if they are sighted. We are arranging for presentations by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the Columbia County Department of Health (DOH), and the Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM).

***This is a public meeting open to all community residents.***




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## Launch Site Parking Issues

Members who frequent the boat launch are aware of the limited parking issues. If everyone parked perfectly based on the posted signs, there should be parking for 8 vehicles with trailers and 8 vehicles without trailers. However, in the real world and without a striped parking lot, the parking is often haphazard, and 16 vehicles cannot always fit.

Over the past year, the KLC has been exploring a few options for improving the parking situation. Expanding the parking is not feasible due to the lack of available land and the existing topography. Paving and striping the lot would be most helpful to guide vehicles to park efficiently, but this option was dismissed due to the high cost of paving, striping, and upkeep, and the slim likelihood of receiving a DEC permit because of the storm water management issues adjacent to the lake.

The latest proposal under consideration is to install three additional parking signs to help guide vehicles with and without trailers to park more efficiently as well as to construct a sign kiosk at the launch. A kiosk would help in several ways. A kiosk would provide a central location for the currently posted KLC and DEC signs and it would provide a location to post a parking layout for all to see.

We need everyone's cooperation in understanding that parking at the launch is very limited and parking is on a first-come first-served basis. We ask that all launch users please be considerate and follow the posted parking layout to the best of their ability.

## News from the Dam

For the past several years Bernie Kelleher has been overseeing operations and maintenance at the dam. This fall and winter has been especially challenging to keep the water level consistent due to all the precipitation we had. As most of you know, water levels rise and fall depending on the flow of water from the Valatie Kill. During heavy rain events, the sluice gate at the dam has to be appropriately adjusted to regulate water flow through the bottom of the dam. When the gate is opened wide to accommodate heavy rain events, the debris rack in front of the gate gets obstructed more frequently and must be cleared more often. When outflow through the sluice gate is restricted, the water level in the lake can often rise as much as 6" in a 24-hour period. A lot of the debris usually includes leaves, sticks, and land bogs, which is expected. But this fall there were several large items obstructing the water flow which could have been prevented if property owners cleaned their shoreline and removed objects from their lawns or docks in the fall before they blew into the lake.

The following items were removed from the debris rack this fall: one plastic kiddie pool, three 10'x20' blue tarps (tarps really shut off the flow), one partial dock, six 4x4s, three 6x6s, four railroad ties, two plastic patio chairs, and one 55 gallon plastic barrel.

Please clean up your shoreline every fall and put away or secure items that could blow into the lake. Most of these items tend to end up blocking the debris rack and water flow at the dam. Keeping these items out of the lake with help Bernie maintain a consistent water level in the lake over the winter and help prevent ice damage to your docks and bulkheads.

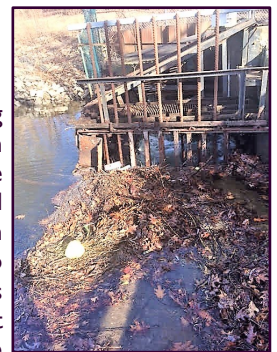
## Merchandise Update

In January 2019, Ken Bosen resigned from the Board of Directors and chairman of the Merchandise Committee. We would like to thank Ken for 10 years of commendable service to the KLC and for the great job he and his wife Patty did managing the sale of merchandise all these years.

Effective immediately, Board Member Pete Walkes will be taking over the sale of KLC merchandise. Pete's goal for this year will be to introduce a few new products and logos for sale. Pete will also be evaluating methods for online sales using PayPal or credit cards.

Current and new merchandise can be viewed on the merchandise page of our website and be purchased throughout the year by contacting Pete directly at 914-217-6770 or [17freebyrd@gmail.com](mailto:17freebyrd@gmail.com). Also keep in mind, while they last, we will continue to sell some of our "discontinued" shirts and sweatshirts at discounts up to 50% off.

Remember, all money raised by the sale of merchandise goes directly to support the various KLC programs that maintain and improve Kinderhook Lake. We hope you will support these efforts by continuing to purchase KLC logo merchandise.



**Clogged debris rack**

## Fish Committee

In the fall of 2018, the KLC stocked the lake with 450 largemouth bass, along with 10,000 fathead feeder fish. This is the second stocking in three years, bringing a total of 800 new largemouth bass into Kinderhook Lake. To help propagate the new stock, the KLC has been installing both natural and man-made fish habitat structures around the lake and will continue with that effort in 2019.

Another effort to increase the bass population has been the moratorium on removing both largemouth and smallmouth bass from the lake since 2016. With the latest fish stocking, this moratorium has been extended through 2023. To this effort, we urge everyone to continue to practice catch and release.

Monitoring of the fish population will continue again this year. Members of the Fish Committee will canvas fisherman throughout the summer asking for the species, amount, and size of fish caught. If you wish, please feel free to post your fishing information on our Facebook page or the comments page of our website. This information helps the Committee track and understand the life cycles of our fish population.



## The Year in Review

While our sights are primarily set on the future, it is always encouraging to look back and see what was accomplished over the past year.

- Harvesting volunteers spent much of June and July harvesting and disposing of over ten tons of invasive aquatic plants in accordance with our DEC permit.
- The herbicide boat was out every other week to distribute copper sulfate around the lake to control the growth of blue-green algae in accordance with our DEC permit.
- In June, over two dozen volunteers spent a Saturday morning hand-pulling water chestnuts from the north end of the lake. Pulling water chestnuts each spring has made a huge impact by continually reducing the size of this invasive weed bed.
- Many volunteers contributed a great deal of time and effort to organize the first annual KLC Lake Day, which took place at One Tree Island on August 4th. Over \$3,100 was raised from the raffle to support KLC programs.
- The fish committee stocked the lake with large-mouth bass and feeder fish this fall. The committee has continued to add fish habitat structures to provide a healthy environment for fish to spawn, thrive, and grow.
- The sluice gate at the dam was adjusted on a daily basis to maintain a consistent water level throughout the summer season. Volunteers also kept an eye on the condition of the dam.
- The water quality committee has been continuing to evaluate alternatives for future lake and watershed management. Sampling for phosphorus levels were taken on a monthly basis during the summer at six locations around the lake to help determine how and where nutrients enter the lake. Additional sampling will continue in 2019.
- Merchandise sales contributed over \$3,000 to support KLC programs.
- Dozens enjoyed the July 4th kayak rally, boat parade, and ring of fire. (continued on pg 4)

## KLC Community Lake Day

This past August 4<sup>th</sup>, the KLC hosted its first annual Community Lake Day at One Tree Island. Boats, kayaks, and canoes were moored all about the island making the social and fundraising event a great success. Lake residents enjoyed complimentary hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch while catching up with lake neighbors and friends and being serenaded by Joel Potts on guitar. Thanks to Wicked Good Food for the donation of food and Niverville Sunoco for the beverages. Informational pamphlets and KLC merchandise were available thanks to the efforts of Fran Sindlinger, Ken and Patty Bosen, and the use of Ron Jensis' pontoon boat. A raffle was held at 2:00pm with a 50" flat screen TV as the top prize. The raffle was enjoyed by all and raised over \$3,100 to help support the various KLC programs that maintain and improve Kinderhook Lake. A big thank you to all who participated in the raffle and special thanks to 'Mayor' Jack Warner who generously donated the TV.

Thank you to all who attended and supported the event and thanks to committee members Rick Theriault, Pete Walkes, Fran Sindlinger, Bernie Kelleher, and Mike Francoeur; chefs Bill and Terry Cleary and Mike Francoeur; boat safety patrol by Tim Kelly and Catherine Walkes; boat/barge donations by Bernie Kelleher and Ron Jensis.

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### KLC Logo Merchandise

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merchandise on our  
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- ◆ Wine Glasses

Money raised through the  
sale of merchandise is used  
to benefit Kinderhook Lake  
programs.

### Article Contributors:

Bill Cleary  
Bernie Kelleher  
Daniel Langer  
Rick Theriault  
Pete Walkes

### KLC News Editor:

Daniel Langer

## Annual Notice of Copper Sulfate Treatment

The KLC has applied to NYSDEC for a permit to treat Kinderhook Lake with copper sulfate in 2019 (EPA Registration No. 46923-4). Copper sulfate is an herbicide which is used broadly to control algae. The levels used will be within the limits permitted by NYSDEC to kill blue-green algae without affecting other forms of algae.

In early spring, when water temperatures are low, white algae, called diatoms, multiply rapidly. Those algae, as well as several other forms of brown and green, are produced as the water warms; they are excellent food for crustaceans, mollusks, and fish fry. However, when water temperatures reach 68 degrees F, blue-green algae begins to multiply rapidly. Since blue-greens are not consumed by other organisms, they grow at the expense of the edible forms. If left untreated, levels will rise, water clarity will decrease, and an unsightly, odor-producing scum of blue-green algae will form on the surface. Blue-green algae are not toxic to humans but may be to some dogs and other domestic animals. Swimming, eating fish, and watering domestic animals will be restricted for 24 hours following treatment.

Persons wishing to register their disapproval with regard to the proposed treatment may do so by writing or calling Mr. Mark Solan, NYSDEC Region #4, 1150 N. Wescott Road, Schenectady, NY 12306, (518) 357-2045; persons wishing to do so have twenty-one days from the date of this notice. No response from riparian owners will be considered consent for the applications.

## The Year in Review *(continued from pg 3)*

- After several years of discussions with SUNY Oneonta, Kinderhook Lake was finally selected for study by a grad student in the Lake Management Program. Study and analysis took place during the fall and will continue in the spring. We look forward to receiving a Summary Lake Management Report later this year.
- Last spring, permits were received from DEC for aquatic weed harvesting and the use of copper sulfate. To get a jump on summer 2019, permit applications for aquatic weed harvesting and the use of copper sulfate were submitted to DEC and the Army Corp of Engineers before the end of 2018.

With the continuing help and generosity of our members and sponsors we look forward to building on our successes in 2019.

## Dates to Remember

### ~April 15

Start raising the lake to summer level.  
Actual date is weather dependent.

### June 15

HABs Public Information Meeting:  
10:00am at the KLIA Hall.

### June 22

Water chestnut hand-pulling event:  
9-11am; meet at One Tree Island.

### July 4

Kayak Rally: 8:30-11:30am  
Boat Parade: starts 1:30pm at One Tree Is.  
Ring of Fire: 9:00pm

### August 3

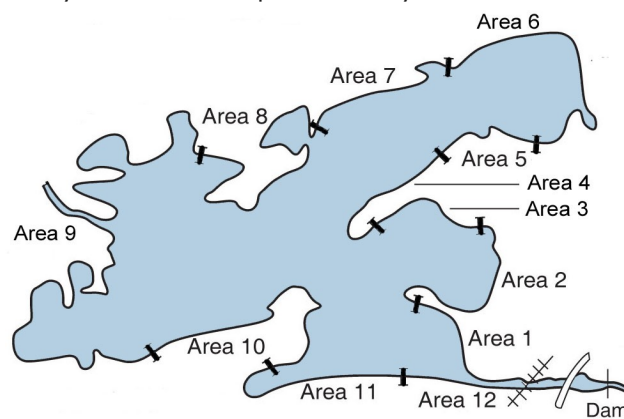
KLC Community Lake Day: 12:00-2:00pm

### August 24

KLC Annual Members' Meeting:  
10:00am at the KLIA Hall

## Area Directors

KLC Directors are responsible for certain programs and for representing residents in shoreline areas indicated on the map. If you have concerns, please contact your Area Director.



Area 1	Fran Sindlinger	518-784-2299
Area 2	Steve Everett	518-610-8542
Area 3	Dan Langer	518-221-8689
Area 4	Pete Walkes	914-217-6770
Area 5	Vacant Jan 2019	
Area 6	Rick Theriault	518-573-5088
Area 7	Ron Jensis	518-784-4355
Area 8	Drew Nelson	347-721-6930
Area 9	Lauren Desharnais	518-567-9812
Area 10	Bernie Kelleher	518-784-4717
Area 11	Bill Cleary	518-784-3914
Area 12	Mike Francoeur	518-784-2651