

HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
October 30, 2017  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

**OPENING:**

President Jay Cassella called the regular monthly Board meeting of the Hidden Lake Association to order at 7:17 p.m. on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 11 Jail Hill Road, Haddam.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jay Cassella, President  
Dale Fiore, Vice President  
Alan Stokke, Treasurer  
Sheri Berger, Board Member (Term Expires 2019)  
Cindy Porriello (Term Expires 2017)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Laura Jenner, Past President  
Charlene Baulski, Tax Collector  
Carolyn Chailfoux Board Member (Term Expires 2017)  
Carmela Della Mura, Secretary

**ASSOCIATION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Eleanor Porriello  
Anthony Grandazzo  
Theresa Resnick  
Jim Kearney  
Brian Polak  
James Nicholson  
Victoria Nicholson  
Jean Cassella  
Peter Lombardo

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A correction/explanation of the previous Motion to lower the lake for town use and also to lower the lake for the winter was taken by email. While the first part of that motion was passed, the lowering for the winter was not agreed to. The motion should have been separated, and the correct passing of the motion to lower the lake for town roadwork only, can now be found under "Lake Committee" in these minutes.

After the minutes were reviewed and corrected, a **Motion to approve the minutes of the September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting was made by Dale Fiore and seconded by Sheri Berger. Motion passed. So moved.**

## **B. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Alan Stokke presented the August and September treasurer reports and explained monies paid out for each month. Alan further explained that the format of these reports is the same every month, explaining this for the new people attending the meeting. He reported no tax monies came in either month, and explained interest and expenses. Bank balances and reserve balances were explained. Alan asked if there were any questions, and there were none. There was a **Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report by Sheri Berger and the motion was seconded by Cindy Porriello. Motion passed. So moved.**

## **C. TAX COLLECTOR REPORT:**

Charlene Baulski was not present. No report.

## **D. SEPTIC REPORT:**

Anthony Grandozzo reported that according to the information given to him by Jay, there are three septic systems needing to be pumped this year. Anthony also stated that he is in the process of re-organizing the records he has received and has found some inconsistencies concerning septic tanks cleaned two years in a row, some weren't done in three years. Jay stated it might have just been typos that were made on the reports.

Anthony would like to get in touch with Skip Cahill to gather more information regarding the operational definition of some of the terms he is utilizing on the state of the septic tanks as they are cleaned and which ones may need work done on them. He was concerned that there may be some septic systems not in the best condition. He doesn't know what the follow up would be on these nor does he know what authority the Board would require. There are a lot of questions Anthony has, but in the simple report, he states there are three tanks to be cleaned.

A resident reported that in the past Chatham Health would get notices and that they would get involved and take care of those issues of septic systems that need work.

Alan explained to Anthony that the septic cleaning list is posted on the HLA website every year. Alan stated that the septic tank information was reported to Chatham Health in the past by Skip Cahill and Alan suggested that Anthony check with Skip Cahill to make sure he is reporting this information to the Health department town, as Chatham Health no longer is involved. Alan stated that as long as he has been here, the Board never got involved with the septic systems that needed work. Anthony will check with the Cahill Company and the Health Department to make sure the reports of the septic tank cleanings are going to the town's health agency.

Alan stated that 35 West Shore was not on his list to be cleaned and Anthony said that that was from the last year's list. Theresa reported her septic tank was done.

A resident asked why her name was on the list as not done, and Alan reported he had not gotten an invoice from Cahill for septic cleaning for some systems so he didn't know if they were done. Alan stated 71 West Shore Drive had been done and there was no bill either.

Alan went through the invoices that he received today from Anthony for septic cleanings and will speak with Anthony after the meeting to check invoices versus what Anthony has to coordinate. There was over \$2,100 in invoices not given to Alan and therefore not paid yet to Cahill.

There was discussion regarding the distribution of the incoming HLA mail. Anthony suggested all septic mail go directly to him, and he would process invoices to Alan. Discussion of delivery of the mail in the past was done. Jay reported that he picks up HLA mail on Fridays, and said all mail from Cahill would make sense to give Anthony first.

Jay asked for an explanation of the start and ending schedule of yearly septic pumping and Alan explained it's during the fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>).

Theresa Resnick asked what the fees were per septic system pumping and Alan reported the fee is \$275, no matter the size of the septic system. It was also asked if the septic cleaning contract should go out for bid for next year's contract. Jay thought that might be a good idea, but we should wait until this year's list is done before sending out bids.

Anthony asked if he was responsible for generating the 2018 list for July 1<sup>st</sup> of next year and Alan explained that he puts the list on the website, but Anthony has to give him the list, Anthony being the Septic Committee. Alan checks them off on our website as they are completed.

#### **E. ROAD COMMITTEE:**

Jay explained that he reports as acting chairman. Dale Fiore reported that the Laydon Construction has reported their mobilizing equipment should be on site this week for all pothole repairs as approved.

***See Laydon Construction Contract for Road Repairs attached.***

Jay asked about landscaping and Alan said that usually falls under Road Committee. Jay asked about previous tree work done and Alan reported there

was tree work done only last year and that money was taken from the \$5,000 contingency account.

Jay proposed some sort of property maintenance line item. Jay reported that there are two trees that need to be taken down. One tree is on West Shore Drive and one is at the dam. He reported that he has met with three tree experts for estimates and has not received estimates from any of them. He will look for other companies.

The spillway was previously landscaped and charged HLA \$1200 for this work. Jay was able to get Langer Landscaping to agree to a fee of \$600 for the same work.

***See email attached from Langer Landscaping regarding spillway clearing.***

Snowplowing was discussed. Snowplowing, shoveling and/or de-icing coverage is further explained in the Langer Landscaping contract attached. Alan made a **Motion to Approve the Langer Landscaping contract and Dale Fiore seconded the motion. Motion passed. So moved.**

***See Langer Landscaping contract regarding snowplowing attached***

Theresa mentioned her concern for icing on the hill near the West Shore Beach, and was told that sanding is included in the contract.

#### **F. LAKE REPORT:**

An email vote was taken previously which had included a Motion to lower the lake for the Town roadwork to be done AND a Motion to lower the lake for the winter. These two motions should have been introduced separately, which was found later to be the proper way to introduce motions. Jay suggested a new vote to lower the lake for the town road crew.

Jay stated it's between the Town and the State how they do this, but he read an email from the Town, which states their plan to leave the height of Hidden Lake Road at its existing height.

***See attached email from Chris Corsa.***

Subsequently, a corrected **Motion to lower the lake two feet to allow the Town to work on the causeway was made by Cindy Porriello and seconded by Alan Stokke. Motion passed. So moved.**

Jay read the Lake Committee's recommendations...

## Recommendation from the Lake Committee

The Lake Committee has been researching remedies for the sake of Hidden Lake's restoration beautification and a long-term management plan to follow. With that in mind, below is our proposal to begin this year with the lower of the lake.

### **We are asking the BOG to vote on this item only:**

Lowering the lake on November 30, 2017 to maintain a level that exposes approximately 25 feet along the majority of shoreline. *MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>*

### **The purpose:**

To allow for drying and freezing of the exposed shoreline vegetation as a means of control.

### **To be enter into the minutes:**

*As a source of recommendation for lake lowering: CAES report, email Greg Bugbee,*

*As a source of research to the safety of the fish when lake is lowered Uconn research on fish*

### **Lowering on an odd year:**

Allowed, according to the by-laws (Section 48-A)

Jay introduced and discussed the 2006 lake survey report from Dr. Priscilla Baillie, an email recommendation from Greg Bugbee, CAES Associate Scientist; 1999 lake survey by Priscilla Baillie; 2009 Hidden Lake newsletter, all showing the benefits of the lake being lowered through the winter.

Jay also referred to a 1995 survey saying that a significant depth of lake has been lost. He says that is what we are trying to remedy here.

Jay says that what we have done in the past has not done anything for weeds and just allowed people work on their docks, clean their waterfront and do that type of stuff.

### ***See Summary of lake survey reports attached.***

A Motion to lower the lake from November 30<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> for a winter drawdown was made as per the Lake Committee recommendations to a level that exposes approximately 25 feet of the majority of the shoreline by Cindy Porriello. Dale Fiore seconded. Sheri Berger opposed. Discussion followed:

Sheri explained her concerns, stating that it is an off year and we didn't get a report last year from Solitude as to what we have as to plant species in the lake. She doesn't know if we have the information we need to lower in an off year. What happens to all the plants that die and then gets left behind and remains in the lake. Jay stated that the same thing happens when you do a chemical treatment. Sheri stated, yes, we get an algae bloom. She stated that we haven't talked to anyone from Solitude to get a plan or even identify the plants that will die. In other meeting minutes we had discussed getting a report of the lake and we would develop a plan from there. Jay said that doesn't mean we have to stop doing what we are doing. Sheri said we can't do something without having all of the information on it and everyone just say yes or no. Jay stated we did get a report last year from Solitude saying what chemicals we should use, but the Board, at that time, opted to do nothing because they couldn't make a decision. So yes, we do have a report and that's why we are talking about what we have here. Jay says it doesn't matter what weeds we have, it matters that we let the weeds freeze period. It doesn't make any difference. Sheri says that the snow will insulate the weeds and wouldn't do any good. Jay stated better to try than not do anything at all. Jay stated that we are not doing anything to correct this and nothing has been done for so long, and in fact, the lake wasn't even drained last year despite being an even year when it was supposed to be drained.

Alan suggested before opening this discussion up to the members, he would like the Board discuss this first, and then when that's done, then we can have a discussion with the members.

Alan read to the Board a little more of the 2006 report by Dr Baillie that talks about a drawdown and couple of different things regarding the weeds in the lake. Alan read from the report.

Alan was concerned for ice recreational activities during the drawdown. Ice fishing, skating, etc. Alan reported that the first feet of shore where there may be sand may freeze, but he has tried raking and he said he started to sink in that muck even in the middle of January when we have had a hard winter in the past.

Sheri also was concerned that if we do the drawdown every year, there would be no winter activities, ice skating, fishing, etc. Jay said it wouldn't be done every year, just two years in a row and then every even year. Jay stated that he didn't think anybody from the lake committee said every year was the plan. Jay stated that lowering the lake is in the bylaws and one of the reasons to for a lake drawdown is to freeze the weeds and it always has been.

Dale understands Sheri's concern.

Dale spoke and said If the lowering is mandated or recommended by the town to do it, it's going to run into the time that we are proposing, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Who knows when the paving may commence or will be done. Dale felt that we have done nothing up to now, and his recommendation is to attempt something to try eradicating some of these odd species, and now knowing that the lake will come back, Dale feels it should be done. Dale's worry was wondering if the lake would come back but Alan said it does. Jay said as long as we are drawing down for the Town, leave it down for this work. Sheri stated that the Town requires a minimal draw down as compared to the total drawdown that would be done for a proper freeze.

Jay says he has a lot of reports saying that it does not do harm and Sheri says she has a lot of reports that says it doesn't necessarily work. Jay offered Sheri the opportunity to introduce the document she had and Sheri declined. Dale asked Sheri if she is proposing that the lake never get drawn down and Sheri said, "no, she is just saying it's an odd year, and that again we talked about getting a map to know what we have, where we have it, and what would be affected.

Jay was concerned that the Board doesn't understand the magnitude of losing our lake and discussed the difference in the quality of the lake from the time he first came to the lake. He stated that there has been so many lakes lost in this state and he does not want to lose our lake. Jay stated that we don't know if the total drawdown would work because it hasn't been done in over 20 years. The last time the lake was drawn down that significantly was when the lake had to be down long enough to work on the dam in 1991. It was drawn down to a stream per Alan. Jay said we would never have to go that low. In order to keep

Hidden Lake, we have to dredge somehow. We have stumps in the lake. Many people are volunteering to pull stumps and cut weeds. We now have the interest of people and they are helping to do this in order not to lose the lake.

There was a motion made in August last year to draw down the lake but there were no meetings in September, October, November or December. While the motion passed, it was never drawn down. Jay questioned as to why wasn't it drawn down then, but got no answer.

Jay stated that we have to fix the dam as well. He stated that dam repairs need to be done and have needed to be done for the past two years. There are cracks in the dam that have been ignored for the last two or three years, but dam repairs are not on the agenda during the drawdown.

Alan stated that because all work is by volunteer, no one stepped up to help with work to be done. That's why a management committee was considered last year. Alan disagrees that we are losing the lake and he doesn't see that happening. He said that from the report of Dr. Baillie's from 11 years ago, there was no danger of losing the lake.

Alan stated that the previous Board addressed on numerous occasions, and had many debates about weed control. Alan reported that we did a massive weed kill of the lily pads years ago and there was no problem with that at all. We killed off all the lily pads, and the lake was looking like it did 30 and 40 years ago when he moved here. We did it again but we did the treatment late in the year and there was a big algae bloom. Despite all that, whether they grow and fall down as they are now or grow and get killed in the spring, all that bio mass is still going to be down there. Dr. Baillie talked in her report about not using phosphates in laundry usage, but that was never addressed; one neighbor used lawn maintenance chemicals and all that stuff went into the lake; there's drainage silt built up on West Shore Drive, which needs riff raff and again, nothing was done. That's why Sheri investigated management companies to take care of hiring contractors to do all that work.

Alan addressed Jay, saying that Jay came in with all kinds of enthusiasm which Alan applauds and a lot of people are getting involved. Even though Alan sees some of this stuff here is benign, it might not work and it probably isn't going to make much difference, but he is willing to give it a try if other people don't have objections to it. There's a new vigor here trying to get things done but we tried years ago to get people involved. Alan sees a new energy to get things done. Alan remembers the Board tried to get a bulldozer to remove the stumps and the bulldozer almost got stuck. Then the Board hired Dave Carlson to dig stumps out and bury them in the west cove; now the stumps are starting to float back up again because nobody wants this stuff.

Alan said it is not like the Board hasn't tried before. Jay said he's not saying that. Alan stated this has all been discussed over the years. A lot of it has to do with who is going to do it.

Alan is inclined to say yes to the lowering because he is willing to give the committee the benefit of the doubt. Alan stated that there's no magic cure here. Dredging will cost a lot and that's what Dr. Baillie said. Alan is not in favor of bringing in a \$70,000 machine with other people's lake weeds on it, because Hidden lake is one of the few lakes that doesn't have invasive species in it. Alan said he is real leery of bringing any kind of a machine in. The Association paid \$10,000 once and Dr. Baillie said in her report that all weeds would come back within three years just like they were before we spent the \$10,000. She said draw down, herbicides with limited use, attacking specific problems, like weeds coming up is the recommendation. We do lose shellfish when we lower the lake, but Alan is inclined to support it, but wonders about the fisherman and the ice skaters.

Jay asked the Board if there were any questions, and then opened the discussion up to the members.

Discussion continued. Jean Cassella, who stated she has lived at the lake for thirty years, remembers when the drawdowns were effective. She discussed her years on the lake and the sediment that is now in the lake. She said to give it a chance to clean it out and use the stump machine to possibly dig out some of them. She stated that there are too many weeds now.

Victoria Nicholson has had discussions with Greg Bugbee, CAES Associate Scientist, and has asked what his recommendation would be for weed control. He suggested lowering the lake this year, do the clean up so the lake could freeze. He stated that the drawdown works. Victoria had gone kayaking this summer and couldn't believe how dense the vegetation was. She feels if we don't do anything, nothing is going to change. Victoria read from a survey. Alan asked if Victoria was talking about the State survey, and Victoria stated that the State suggested doing their test July next year and they charge from \$800 to \$1,000. Victoria thinks from previous meetings, that Solitude charged around \$2,000. Alan asked if this was a survey from CAES and Victoria had the survey with her. Alan doesn't remember paying CAES for a survey.

Jim Kearney stated that fishing in the lake is no longer enjoyable.

Brian Polak understands everyone's concerns and his opinion is to draw down the lake to that level that it is allowed to freeze. When the lake has been drawn down in the past, it's back up by December. He thinks action should be taken now, but a plan has to be formulated. Brian suggested we need a long-term plan, and the drawdown is a good start. Brian said Hidden Lake is a great community and said it's like being on vacation everyday.

Anthony Grandazzo also stated that he too is a thirty-year resident and feels that the lake is deteriorating and we need to start now to correct that.

Theresa Resnick appreciated Sheri's concerns, but said that we should give it a try.

Jay said he spoke with realtors who had houses for sale on the lake and the condition of the lake was one of the issues with selling the properties.

Jay stated that he and his wife will be moving down south in the future and he wants to keep the value of his house up and the quality of the lake up.

It was reported that the lake was stocked with fish one year. Jay didn't think we needed to do it again and thought it did work very nicely.

**A Motion to lower the lake from November 30<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> for the winter freeze approximately 25 feet from the majority of the shoreline as recommended by the Lake Committee was made by Cindy Porriello. Dale Fiore commented that it was a very good discussion and he seconded the motion. Sheri Berger opposed. The motion was passed. So moved.**

DAM COMMITTEE: No report.

**G. BY-LAW COMMITTEE:**

No report.

**H. AUDIT COMMITTEE:**

Sheri Berger reported that she is waiting for information from the Tax Collector. Dale commented on the time delay in cashing the checks for taxes.

**I. WEB REPORT:**

WEBSITE: Alan Stokke reported that the website is up to date.

FACEBOOK: No report.

**J. SPECIAL PROJECTS:**

Cindy Porriello provided Alan with a copy of the 2013 annual meeting minutes which were never posted to the HLA website. Alan has been looking for those minutes, as he had never received them. Alan will now add to the HLA website.

No objection was made to having the 2013 minutes approved and posted.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No report.

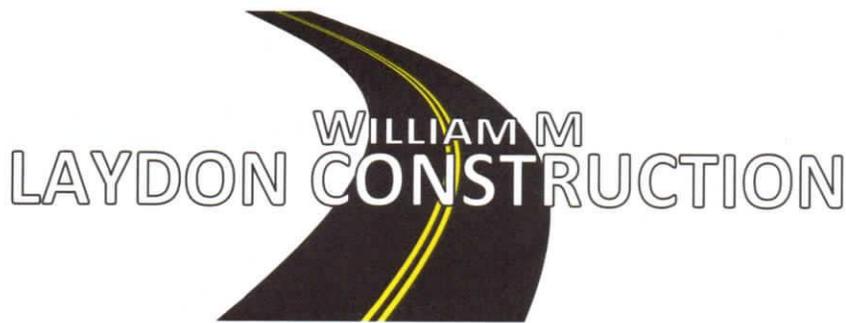
**NEW BUSINESS:**

No report.

***AT 8:40 P.M. A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE AND SECONDED. THE REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING OF THE HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION HELD ON OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 WAS ADJOURNED.***

***THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIDDEN LAKE ASSOCIATION WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. BURR HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.***

Respectfully submitted,  
Carmela Della Mura, Secretary  
Transcribed from notes made by  
Eleanor Porriello, and a tape of the  
meeting supplied by Jay Cassella.



Hidden Lake Association  
 Higganum, Connecticut  
 Attention: Dale & Jay

July 23, 2017

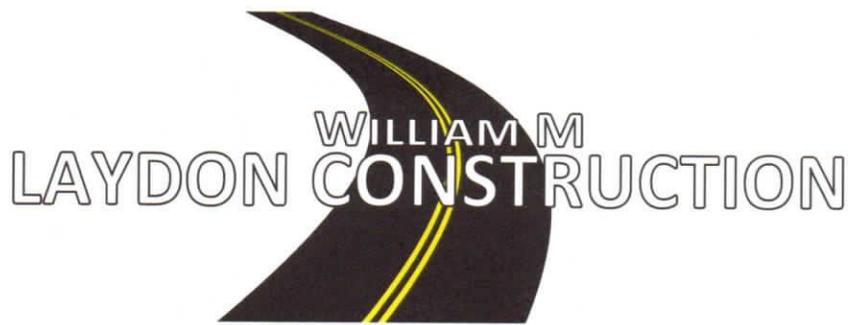
We are pleased to quote the repairs at your home owner's association at the above mentioned location.

The Scope of the work is as follows:

1) Shore Drive @ White Birch 15' Curbing	\$ 150.00
2) Shore Drive (East Entrance) 4 x 6, 3 x 5	\$ 350.00
3) East Shore @ First Ave 15 x 3.5, 11 x 3.5	\$ 465.00
4) 47 West Shore Drive 14.5 x 4.5	\$ 385.00
5) 62 West Shore Drive 5.5 x 7.5	\$ 350.00
6) 78 West Shore Drive 2 x 2, 15' hot rubber	\$ 200.00
7) Beach Rd @ West Shore 24 x 3.4	\$ 415.00
8) West Shore @ Ledge Rd 1 x 1	\$ 95.00
9) West Shore (Between Ledge & Beach) 4 x 4.5	\$ 300.00
10) 137 West Shore 2 x 2, 2 x 2	\$ 200.00
11) West Shore - 75' North of Cross Ave 11 x 3	\$ 345.00
12) West Shore @ Cross Ave (pavement edge will be stabilized on opposite s 47 x 4	\$ 865.00

**GENERAL CO**

- ASPHALT P
- PARKING A
- CONCRETE
- ROAD CON
- EXCAVATION
- EQUIPMENT



**GENERAL C**

- ASPHALT P
- PARKING A
- CONCRETE
- ROAD CON
- EXCAVATIO
- EQUIPME

Hidden Lake Association  
Higganum, Connecticut  
Attention: Dale & Jay

July 23, 2017

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13) 8 Cross Ave		
50 x 12.6		\$ 2,650.00
Process stone only		\$ 2,250.00
14) 31 West Shore		
		\$ 265.00
15) Shore Drive @ Hidden Lake Road		
23 x 11.3, 6 x 3,		
3 x 3, 10 x 4		\$ 1,300.00

Work includes the following:

- Saw Cut, excavate, remove and dispose of existing materials
- Fine grade and compact subbase
- Install two courses of bituminous concrete totaling 3"

Total of the above (1-15) is \$8,335.00.

Thank you for the opportunity to quote this work. Please call me if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

*William M. Laydon Jr.*  
JML

William M. Laydon, Jr.  
President

**Email from Langer for spillway clearing**

Oct 17

**Shawn Langer <langerlandscapes@yahoo.com>**  
to me

Jay

Attached last years contract for snow. The dam at \$600 will be ok to cut and clear like I did the year before. Thanks Shawn

***Langer Contractors***

***860.452.4057***

***Killingworth, CT***

***Complete Landscape Installation and Maintenance***

***www.LangerLandscapes.com***



## Snow Management Proposal / Contract

### Langer Landscapes

19 Bear Path Lane  
Killingworth, CT 06419  
Office/Fax 860-452-4057 Cell 860-790-0798

CT LICENSE # 583718  
DEP #S5193

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#### **WE HEREBY SUBMIT SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATE FOR:**

#### **2017-2018 Snow Management Service at**

#### **Hidden Lake Association Roads**

##### **A. Scope of Work:**

Langer Contractors will provide all necessary services and materials to complete the job(s) as outlined below. All work to be performed in a professional manner according to industry standard practices. A description of the work to be performed and the fees for our services are as outlined below:

##### SCOPE OF SNOW PLOWING SERVICE (GENERAL)

The season shall commence December 1, 2017 and shall terminate April 1, 2018

Snow plowing, shoveling and/or de-icing coverage begins when approximately 2-4" of snow has fallen and will continue at periodic intervals throughout the storm. Periodic plowing, shoveling and/or de-icing are defined as follows: These services will be performed at the discretion of the contractor during an active storm depending on the snowstorm's length and severity to plow, shovel and/or de-ice those areas specified under this agreement. It is understood that depending on the length and severity of the ice or snowstorm that it may take the contractor varying amounts of time to fulfill all work covered under this agreement.

The purpose of our initial visit is to "open up" the driveway/ parking lot. This will enable you to get in and out of the area.

Our decision as to when the initial visit will occur depends on a number of factors:

1. Current snowfall accumulations
2. Current weather
3. Traffic conditions
4. Future weather predictions

Once the initial visit has occurred we will periodically monitor the site, and provide whatever services are needed.

During an active storm we constantly monitor the weather and temperatures so as to provide the most effective service. If the forecast for our general area dictates a lesser snowfall amount of say 2"-5" we may choose to wait until the end of the storm so as to avoid the complications and risks of competing with traffic. In the event of a heavy snowfall 6+" we may visit the site numerous times.

This proven method is not only easier on our drivers and equipment but this also will enable you to gain access to roadways in the event that travel is necessary.

If a major icing or blizzard conditions are forecast for our area, we may elect to wait until driving conditions are safe for our drivers and allow the ice to accumulate on top of existing snowfall rather than on "bare pavement". We find it much easier to control significant icing that has occurred when it has not been constantly driven over or compacted by some other means such as heavy foot traffic.

The contractor will not be responsible for the following: damage to existing landscaping or any damages that occur to asphalt, concrete or stone surfaces as a result of our snow plowing, shoveling and/or de-icing services. The customer must notify contractor within 48 hours of any other damages. Failure to report damages constitutes a waiver and the contractor is released from liability. Customer understands that plowing, shoveling and/or de-icing of a particular location may not clear the area to "bare pavement" and that slippery conditions may continue to prevail even after plowing/ shoveling or the application of de-icing materials has occurred. Customer understands that the contractor assumes no liability for this commonly occurring condition. Customer agrees to defend and hold harmless the contractor for any and all trespasses or suits that may arise as a result of this commonly occurring condition.

SCOPE OF DE-ICING SERVICE: De-icing materials of the Contractor's choice will be applied to driveway/ parking lot, walkway, stairway and handicap access ramp areas at the discretion of the Contractor in agreement with the owner if this service is purchased. The decision as to when and how much material is to be applied is based on many factors including but not limited to: current ground temperature, current weather forecasts from the national weather service and future weather predictions.

Customer is aware that weather conditions in the area may change rapidly and without notice.

Changes in weather conditions are considered to be an "Act of God" and the contractor assumes no liability as such.

## **B. Additional Terms and Conditions:**

- Contractor will not be held responsible for any damage to Owner's property, personal injuries, or other liability arising out of acts outside of Contractor's control, including but not limited to vandalism, flood, fire, wind, hail, rain, heavy snow, freezing, lack of de-icer availability, or other natural causes or acts of persons other than Langer Contractor's employees or agents. Contractor will also not be liable for damage to sidewalks, streets, curbs, sod and other plant material or surfaces as a result of the application of de-icing agents (even those designated safe for use in or on such areas).
- Contractor will not be held responsible for the removal of ice or any injuries to persons or property resulting from falls, slips, sliding, or skidding accidents, etc. *The Owner shall indemnify and hold harmless the Contractor and its agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, arising out of or resulting from falls, accidents, or personal injury, etc., caused in whole or in part by winter season hazards, snow and icy conditions.*
- Contractor is not responsible for accumulation of blowing or drifting snow after site has been cleared. Contractor is not responsible for snow pushed back onto property by municipal or other independent snowplowing operations. Upon request from the Owner, Contractor will re-clear these areas for an additional charge.

## **C. Contract Price**

**Per push price:** This bid is based on a price of \$ 500 per push for 1.0" to 12.0" will be plowed at a rate of. Accumulations greater than 12.0" will result in additional charges to compensate for additional time required to

adequately remove snow as determined by site weather conditions. Customer understands that drifting snow may necessitate an additional plowing at this location, regardless of the total snowfall amount at this location.

If you choose the per push price: \_\_\_\_\_ initial here

Payments will be due upon receipt of invoice. Failure to pay the invoice within ten (30) days of the invoice date relieves the contractor from further liability to plow snow.

Snow plowing is to commence within a reasonable time after the accumulation reaches a minimum of 3". Snow depths in excess of 12" will be plowed at an additional charge of \$150-200 per storm. Snow depths shall be determined by the official report of the National Weather Service.

If needed, sanding only passes \$150.00-350.00 per occurrence at the request of the Owner

Total number of plowings not to exceed two per customer, per snow storm. SNOW STORM TO BE CONSIDER 24 HR PERIOD. If customer elects to have additional plowings, additional charges may apply.

If any equipment other than a snow plow, snow blower and snow shovel is required to clear snow from area to be plowed (i.e., front end loader, dump truck, etc.), an hourly rate of \$100.00 (does not include machine delivery if needed) per man shall be charged to the Customer. Work involving the use of extra equipment as described above shall be performed within a reasonable period of time upon completion of Contractor's regularly scheduled route.

This contract may be paid 30 DAYS after invoicing Failure to make timely installments terminates the contract and relieves the Contractor from any further liability to plow the snow.

**D. NOTES SPECIFIC TO OWNER'S PROPERTY:**

Sanding/de-icing at the property TO BE KEPT AT MINIMUM AT REQUEST OF ASSOCIATION

Thanks for your interest!

Signed this 2nd day of NOV. 2012

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_

JAY CASSELLA / PRESIDENT  
HIDDEN LAKE ASSOC.

**Email from Town of Haddam public works**

**From:** Christopher Corsa  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2017 3:09 PM  
**To:** '[jcassella59@gmail.com](mailto:jcassella59@gmail.com)'  
**Cc:** Lizz Millardo ([firstselectman@haddam.org](mailto:firstselectman@haddam.org))  
**Subject:** Hidden Lake Rd.

Jay,

As you know, we will be paving Hidden Lake Rd in the coming weeks. Thank you for making arrangements to have the Lake level lowered. This could be helpful with preparing the road base for paving.

Please be aware that it is our intention to complete the project without elevation changes to the road at the low point of the lake. The completion of the road repair will be a benefit, not only to the residents of the Association, but to the residents from surrounding neighborhoods and communities as well.

Thanks again for your help.

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Dredging could be investigated as a long term solution to some instances, valuable deposits of sand or gravel under a lake cost of dredging. Cores are taken to determine the composition. Without such resources, however, the cost of large scale dredging capabilities of most lake associations.

## SUMMARY

The 2006 study indicates that the condition of Hidden Lake has changed significantly since 1995. Oxygen levels are adequate to sustain aquatic animals. Conductivity, alkalinity and pH are within the range expected for a lake. The water is clear but very dark in color due to the presence of phytoplankton. Phytoplankton numbers and levels of chlorophyll a (phytoplankton biomass) are low. The zooplankton community is dominated by small forms. Nitrogen, total phosphorus and chlorophyll a levels indicate that the trophic classification has not changed since 1995. The majority of lakes in the mesotrophic range. Hidden Lake is shallow and an abundance of aquatic plants results from this characteristic. Plant surveys in 2006 and 1995 conducted by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, indicate the presence of a diverse number of plant species. Diverse beds of aquatic plants are important for providing food and cover to amphibians, reptiles and fish. However, floating plant areas of Hidden Lake have become dense, affecting its appearance. A plant management program should include the continuation of monitoring with the possible small scale use of chemicals and limited plant removal. Although Hidden Lake is shallow with an abundance of plants, it is a stable ecosystem.

*Please read the top of Page 2, another source advising drawdown.*



## Hidden Lake News

### CONNECTICUT FEDERATION OF LAKES

The Association joined this group in the 1990's and many board, committee members and volunteers have attended the numerous lectures and information conferences put on by them contributing greatly to our knowledge base and awareness of our wonderful lake front community. They found we are fortunate. Our water quality is high and our problems are minor relative to the horror stories we heard from other Federation members living on foreign weed infested, polluted, and abused waterways. The next meeting of the Connecticut Federation of Lakes will be September 17, 2010 in Jewett City. You can learn more about the speakers and topics at [www.ctlakes.org](http://www.ctlakes.org).

### SEPTIC TANK PUMPING

The Association is entering its 14th year of providing free septic pump out for all residents. The contract is put out to bid to insure we receive a competitive price. Our current contractor is Cahill Septic Service. Our septic pump out program is the Hidden Lake Associations most successful initiative to ensure the quality of our lake and we constantly receive praise for it at Lake Federation meetings by being amongst the very first to do so. Every tank in the Association is subject to mandatory cleaning every 4 years Any needed repairs are noted then and are the responsibility of the homeowner.

### WATER TESTING

Our bylaws require us to test the lake twice a year. The samples are taken by a volunteer and brought to a State of Connecticut Licensed and approved facility.

### WEED CONTROL

Our bylaws require us to lower the lake level every even numbered year. The Board has

voted to begin lowering the lake on October 30th this year. We learned from the Federation of Lakes that leaving the lake down for the winter will freeze out many weeds. Our lily pad population is reduced when we do this. We have hired Lycott For the past two years to help control vegetation. Last year they targeted the yellow lily pads. This year they targeted the submerged vegetation. They will be reviewing the late summer situation this year to determine the next step for summer 2011.

#### TREE STUMPS

Hidden Lake was constructed many years ago to create a cranberry bog and became a lake community instead. The tree stumps were left where they were and the lake is littered with them. The membership voted to remove as many as possible in the coves to open the lake to more recreational possibilities. We learned our recycling center didn't want the stumps unless they were dried taking years and we had nowhere to put them. The west Cove was cleared by burying them and a portion of the South Cove was handled until extreme mud stopped progress there. There has been no further attempt to clear any more. Residual stumps and plants provide enough structure for our fish and other aquatic life.

#### BEACHES

We learned from the lake study that using sand to the beaches added nutrients to the water and should not be done. We erected pole barriers to prevent the erosion of sand into the lake and embarked upon maintaining what we have, adding sand rarely. Residents are asked to volunteer to keep the beach areas clean. Also, take home what you bring to the beach.

#### DAM REPAIR

See the minutes of the meetings for the latest news on the dam.

#### ROAD AND DRAINAGE

See the minutes of the meetings for the latest news on the Shore Drive drainage project which is in progress.

### VOLUNTEER TO HELP

This is our community. Volunteer to help maintain and improve the Hidden Lake area. By staying informed, you can contribute locally and make a difference.

#### HIDDEN LAKE WEB SITE

A site was developed and is maintained by a Board member. Please visit the web site to stay informed of all happenings, meetings and get up to date information. Visit the site at: [www.hiddenlakect.org](http://www.hiddenlakect.org)

#### BYLAWS

If you are unfamiliar with the Association bylaws and how your Association works a copy can be downloaded from our web site at: [www.hiddenlakect.org](http://www.hiddenlakect.org), or a copy can be mailed to you by writing to:

**Copy of email – CAES \_ Recommendation for winter draw down for freezing vegetation Sent October 16, 2017**

**Bugbee, Gregory**

to me

Hi Jay:

My experience with drawdowns throughout the state indicates they can give temporary relief from nuisance aquatic plant problems. It always amazes me the resilience with which plant communities return even after years of drawdown for dam repairs. Weed control is best when the sediment dries and/or freezes. The chances for this increases the longer the sediment is exposed without snow cover. For winter drawdowns this is usually between December and March.

I am not sure who you are "required" to call regarding your drawdown. Maybe CTDEEP and your town wetland office.

*Greg Bugbee*

Gregory J. Bugbee  
Associate Scientist  
Department of Environmental Sciences  
Soil Fertility  
Invasive Aquatic Plants

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# CAES

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
Putting Science to Work for Society since 1875

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Dr. Theodore G. Andreadis



Director

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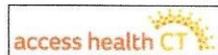
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**MAIN MENU**



## Lakes Surveyed From 2004 to 2013

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Lake/Pond Name	Town(s)
Alexander Lake	Killingly
Amos Lake	Preston
Amston Lake	Hebron, Lebanon, Colchester
Anderson Pond	North Stonington
Andover Lake	Andover
Angus Park Pond	Glastonbury
Anni's Pond (Kleman's Dam)	Bethany
Ashford Lake	Ashford
Avery Pond	Preston
Ball Pond	New Fairfield
Bantam Pond (Timber Lake)	Torrington
Bashan Lake	East Haddam
Basserman Pond	Branford
Batterson Park Pond	Farmington, New Britain
Beaver Dam Lake	Stratford
Beaver Pond	Meriden
Beeslick Pond	Salisbury
Beseck Lake	Middlefield
Bigelow Pond	Union
Billings Lake	North Stonington
Birch Pond	Darien
Bissonette Pond	Willington
Black Hall Pond	Old Lyme
Black Pond	Meriden, Middlefield
Black Pond	Woodstock
Blissville Pond	Lisbon
Bolton Lake	Bolton, Vernon, Coventry, Tolland
Bolton Notch Pond	Bolton
Brandegge Lake	Waterford
Branford Supply Pond (East)	Branford
Broad Brook Reservoir	East Windsor
Bunnells Pond	Bridgeport
Burr Pond	Torrington
Bushy Pond	Clinton
Candlewood Lake	Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, Sherman
Canoe Brook Lake	Trumbull
Cedar Lake	Chester
Cedar Pond	North Branford
Chaffee Lake	Ashford
Chalkers Mill Pond	Old Saybrook
Chase Reservoir	Killingly
Clear Lake	Guilford
Coventry Lake	Coventry
Crescent Lake	Enfield
Crystal Lake	Ellington, Storrs

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## CAES: Lakes Surveyed

Cusick Pond	Bethany
Dayton Pond	Wallingford
Deer Lake	Killingworth
Diamond Lake	Glastonbury
Dividend Pond	Rocky Hill
Doaneville Pond	Griswold
Dodge Pond	East Lyme
Dog Pond	Goshen
Dooley Pond	Middletown
Dunlop Pond (Unnamed Lake with Dam #3036)	Darien
Eagleville Lake	Coventry
Echo Lake	Watertown
Elise Lake	Middlebury
Fall Mountain Lake	Guilford
Farm Brook Reservoir	Hamden
Fence Rock Lake	Guilford
Forest Lake	Bridgeport
Gables Pond	Farmington
Gardner Lake	Bozrah, Montville, Salem
Gladstone Pond	Killingworth
Gorton Pond	East Lyme
Grannis Lake	East Haven
Great Hill Pond	Portland
Green Falls Reservoir	Voluntown
Guilford Lake (Upper)	Guilford
Halls Pond	Ashford, Eastford
Hamlin Pond	Plainville
Hammonasset, Lake	Madison
Hart Pond	Litchfield
Hatch Pond	Kent
Hayward, Lake	East Haddam
Held Pond	Weston
Hidden Lake	Higganum
Higby Reservoir	Middletown
Higganum Reservoir	Haddam
Highland Lake	Winchester
Holbrook Pond	Hebron
Horse Pond	Salem
Horschoc Pond	Wilton
Housatonic, Lake	Derby, Monroe, Oxford, Seymour, Shelton
Howells Pond	Hartland
Hummers Pond	Madison
Indian Lake	Orange
Ingham Pond (Lake Rockview)	Old Saybrook
Ivoryton Pond	Ivoryton
Keley Pond	Guilford
Kenosia, Lake	Danbury
Lakeview Lake (Willow Lake)	West Hartford
Larkin Pond	Middlebury
Laurel Lake	New Hartford
Lillionah Lake	Bridgewater, Brookefield, New Milford, Newton, Roxbury, Southbury
Linsley Pond	Branford, North Branford
Long Meadow Pond	Bethlehem
Lower Pond	Lyme
Lucky Pond (Galko Farm Pond)	Wallingford
Mackenzie Reservoir	Wallingford
Maltby Lake	Orange, West Haven
Mamasasco, Lake	Ridgefield
Manitook Lake	Granby

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## CAES: Lakes Surveyed

Mills Pond	Canton
Mill Pond Park	Newington
Mohawk Pond	Cornwall, Goshen
Mono Pond	Columbia
Moodus Reservoir	East Haddam
Moosup Pond	Plainfield
Morey Pond	Ashford, Union
Muddy Pond	Woodstock
Mystic Seaport Pond	Mystic
Nichols Pond	Oxford
North Farms Reservoir	Wallingford
North Pond (Laurelwood Lake)	Madison
Norwich Pond	Lyme
Oakwood Pond	Guilford
Paderewski Park Pond	Plainville
Pattaganset, Lake	East Lyme
Pickerel Lake	Colchester, East Haddam
Pinewood Lake	Trumbull
Pistapaug Pond	Wallingford
Pocotopaug, Lake	East Hampton
Powers Lake	East Lyme
Putnam Park Pond	Easton
Quaddick Reservoir	Thompson
Quassaoaug Lake	Middlebury
Quonnipaug, Lake	Guilford
Redwing Pond	Ansonia
Rivers Edge Pond	Ivoryton
Rogers Lake	Lyme, Old Lyme
Rolling Ridge Pond	Norwalk
Roseland Lake	Woodstock
Salmon Brook	Glastonbury
Saltonstall Lake	Branford, East Haven
Schreeder Pond	Killingworth
Scribner Pond	Norwalk
Shelton Reservoir	Shelton
Silver Lake	Berlin, Meriden
Silvias Pond	Stonington
Slopers Pond	Southington
Spring Lake	Avon
Squantz Pond	New Fairfield
Staffordville Reservoir	Stafford Springs
Sylvan Lake	Watertown
Talmadges Ice Pond	Branford
Talmage Pond	Branford
Taunton Lake	Newton
Terramuggus Lake	Marlborough
Tilleys Pond	Darien
Timber Lake	Sherman
Town Mill Pond	Guilford
Twin Lake North	Simsbury
Twin Lake South	Simsbury
Tyler Lake	Goshen
Ulbrich Reservoir	Wallingford
Uncas Lake	Lyme
Wah Wah Taysee Pond	North Haven
Wampum Hill Pond	Wilton
Waubeeke Lake	Danbury
West Hill Pond	New Hartford, Barkhamsted
West Lake	Guilford
West Side Pond	Goshen

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CAES: Lakes Surveyed

Winnemaug Lake	Watertown
Wintergreen Lake	Hamden
Wononscopomuc, Lake	Salisbury
Wyassup	North Stonington
Wylers Pond	Weston
Youngs Pond	Branford
Zoar Lake	Monroe, Newton, Oxford, Southbury

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