

Swartswood Lakes & Watershed Association, Inc., PO Box 44, Swartswood, NJ 07877

September, 2009

President's Message:

Although summer is not officially over the signs of fall are starting to appear. Regarding Swartswood Lakes and this past summer, feedback has been very positive about the effectiveness of the winter lake draw down. The Swartswood Lake draw down was efficient in eliminating milfoil and coontail for areas impacted by the winter freeze, which is to a depth of about 5 to 6 feet. Lake water clarity has been very good all summer and this has been a great year for swimming, fishing, sailing and boating.

The fall membership meeting is 10 a.m. Saturday October 3 in the Dining Hall of Camp Lou Henry Hoover. Trustees will meet at 9 a.m. Issues on the agenda will include the lake water quality program, year 2010 aquatic herbicide application, recent changes at NJDEP and election of officers. We also expect to have feedback from the Swartswood Lake water quality studies performed by Princeton Hydro this past summer.

With regard to year 2010 aquatic herbicide treatment, the plan is to submit an application to NJDEP so that residents can have their waterfront areas treated. A single permit will be submitted for the spring of 2010. A firm licensed by NJDEP will perform the pre-emergent herbicide application. Area herbicide coordinators have volunteered to help the process. Those area coordinators are:

George Morville Greenwood Point area
Mike Killen and Peter Aguila Dove Island Area
Milt Becker Emmons Lane Area

Carl and Rose Hooey Casino / Morning Side Drive Area

Jim Stark Little Swartswood Lake

We do not necessarily have all properties or areas covered by the above listing. If you or your area desire herbicide application, please attach yourself to one of the above groups, form your own regional group or hop on board as an individual. Camp Lou Henry Hoover, for example, is added to the list. If you wish your waterfront areas added please do so by the end of October so you will be included in the permit application.

Larry Kovar, an NJDEP licensed aquatic herbicide applicator, does plan to attend our Fall Membership meeting to answer questions. This is the opportunity to ask questions concerning herbicide products, application time frame, effect on other species, and cost of application.

Regarding NJDEP, Dana Cartwright and Pat Rector, our two primary contacts with the water quality division have recently left NJDEP. We do not presently know who our new primary water quality contact is. It is often difficult to find answers during the month of August and just after departures have occurred. We will miss Dana and Pat, as they have been very supportive and helpful.

Hope to see you all at the October 3 meeting. We expect there will be much sharing of information.

Best Regards, Randy

State Park News

Dear SLWA Members:

We had another great summer season at the park despite a few challenges. Rain and cooler temps this past summer gave greater appreciation for nice days and a desire to be outdoors. Visitors looking for affordable "staycations" took advantage of activities offered at nearby parks including Swartswood.

The season began with a serious injury on June 6, 2009 at our swimming area. The quick response of our veteran lifeguards Catherine Egan and Emily Tooker helped to save the life of a young patron and we commend them for their efforts.

We were able to reap the benefits of the lake lowering with better water clarity and less weeds in many areas, which helped to reduce the need for harvesting in some areas. The Water Quality and Macrophyte Survey Report provided by Princeton Hydro, LLC reported overall good results from the monitoring conducted on June 24, 2009. A second monitoring event was conducted in the first week of September but the results have not been received.

The staff at Swartswood State Park strive to do more with less while we continue to be faced with budget constraints and staffing shortages. This time of year gives us the opportunity to improve our facilities and work on deficiencies to better serve our patrons.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you out in the park.

Sincerely, Blanca R. Chevrestt Superintendent Swartswood State Park

Fishing lines

Ed Szabo reports that the early summer produced lots of trout, walleye, channel catfish and pickerel together with a few large mouth bass. Currently fishing time is competing with the early goose season (Ed got 7 so far) and archery deer season. The Paradise Fishing Club is planning now for their fall stocking of trout and the possibility of a contest or other event during October. More details will be discussed at the SLWA October 3rd meeting.



July 4th Parade of Boats

Swartswood Yacht Club celebrated their 50th anniversary this year with a variety of events. In addition to their regular spring, summer and fall racing series, their annual July 4th Parade of Boats saw boats of all sizes (pontoon to kayak) circle the lake to display their patriotic decorations. The club also hosted a SANJL Sunfish Regatta in the spring, which was attended by sailors form three states. SYC also holds a series of social events in addition to their racing schedule. These include an annual picnic, Commodore's Dinner in November and a brunch and ice skating party in January or February. New racing or non-racing members are always welcome.

Stillwater Township Taxpayers Association (STTA) also celebrated their 50th anniversary this year with a delicious buffet dinner at the Boathouse Restaurant on Saturday, September 12th.

About sixty persons attended the dinner. Guest speaker for the occasion was Senator Steve Oroho.

Have you paid your dues for this year? We have received a number of payments, however, if yours is not among them, would you please consider bringing a check with you to the October 3rd membership meeting. Remember, our dues are our only source of income. Your \$35 goes a long way to helping keep our lake the way we like it. Since SLWA is a 501(c) non-profit organization, your dues are tax deductible.

SLWA FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 3, 2009

Trustee meeting 9 a.m.

General Membership Meeting 10 a.m.

CAMP LOU HENRY HOOVER DINING ROOM