

e-News 8 April 2010

Dam it !! Enough is enough already...

The dam work is done and the dam valves are closed, again... Last month the rains and snow-melt run-off caused the Lake to refill very quickly one weekend, catching many of us by surprise. DEP didn't like the surprise, so they asked us to again lower the Lake by 3 feet, hold it there a week, followed by a slow rise, so they/we could get leakage data and sensor readings to gage the effectiveness of the grouting. So far, things look good and the Lake should be full again by 1 May. For regular updates, visit Paul Cornez's blog at: www.paulindianlake.blogspot.com

Safe Boating

There is a lot of debris that became dislodged as the Lake refilled. Much of it could be seen floating, partially (largely) submerged. Much has been 'blown' into west-facing coves and slips. Some has gotten water-logged again and is slowly submerging further.

Starting last week our Borough maintenance crew and police have been out on cleanup duty on a boat loaned to us by the Marina. So far they have removed around a dozen dump-truck loads. There is enough still floating around to be a safety hazard, and it is not likely the cleanup will be completed until 1 May. Until that time, please exercise extreme caution and, if possible, assist in moving or marking floating or submerged debris.

The Borough has no liability for debris in the Lake, nor a responsibility to remove it; boating is at your own risk, as always.

Boating Safety Course

Mayor Miscoe has advised that the Police force will be offering a Boater Safety Training Course over Memorial Day weekend. Sign-up response has been great and the Course will be held at the High School Cafeterium to accomodate the demand. To register you may e-mail the office (Office@indianlakepa.us) or police (Police@indianlakepa.us), or call the police non-emergency number - (814) 267-3776 or the Borough Office at (814) 754-8161.

Flood Insurance

At the May 15 Town Meeting we will be talking about an upcoming decision the Borough needs to make regarding 'signing up' for the National Flood Insurance Program and preparing a new Floodplain Management Ordinance . If we sign up, and it appears we must, it may be at a cost to property owners going forward as compliance brings red tape and new requirements. If we don't sign up it will make it nearly impossible for anyone to get flood insurance, difficult to obtain federally backed mortgages or loans, and make us ineligible for federal funding or support in many areas.

It **may** be in your interest to purchase flood insurance **now** and be grandfathered. March rain/runoff showed that we are certainly not immune to localized flooding, and we had far from 'worst-case' rainfalls and durations.

There have been news programs on TV talking about inaccuracies of the new maps. We spotted some inconsistencies and we have asked for clarification. However, no one knows your property better than you, in most cases. The new preliminary maps and other materials have been posted on the Borough web site; please do some homework and bring your questions to the meeting. It is not too late to ask for a change to the maps; your opinion is important to us; your thoughts may be of value.

On a personal note...

As of 31 March I retired from my day-job after almost 35 years. Indian Lake has been my full-time residence since 2004, but I worked in Monroeville during the week, keeping an apartment there. I committed to retiring and actually being here full-time if I was elected to Council, and have fulfilled that promise. I look forward to manning the Indian Lake Complaint Department as needed, and working on my other foolish campaign promises going forward...

Thanks for your continued support,

Bob Hanson,

CouncilPresident@indianlakepa.us