

# Hicks Lake Newsletter

Information for Hicks Lake Residents

24-Mar-2009

To: Hicks Lake Residents  
From: Mike Ritzer and Norm Klein

Dear Hicks Lake Resident:

With the spring season very close we thought it a good time to send out a newsletter and update all of the residents on the weevil project and other bits of pertinent information about the lake.



Winter fun on Hicks Lake

This newsletter contains:

- Annual Spring Weevil Meeting Info
- Information about the Weevil Planting Project
  - 2008 Planting
  - Funds and Accounting
  - 2009 Planting
- Website information
- Miscellaneous Info
- A Contribution Form and mailer for the 2009 Weevil Project.

## Annual Spring Weevil Meeting

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 is the date scheduled for the annual weevil meeting. The meeting will be held at the Hartwick Township Hall 9:00AM and should last no more than 1 to 2 hours. The township hall is located on the Northwest corner of 90<sup>th</sup> and 15 mile road.

This will be our third weevil meeting. The topics to be discussed will be the 2008 Weevil Planting and the Weevil Project for 2009. Results of the first planting will be discussed along with an update on the project funds and review of the proposed planting site for 2009.

General discussion about and questions for the project will be fielded and suggestions from attendees on ways to improve the water quality of Hicks Lake will be welcome.

As has been the case in the past, this meeting will be limited to discussion about the Weevil Project and general water quality issues at Hicks Lake.

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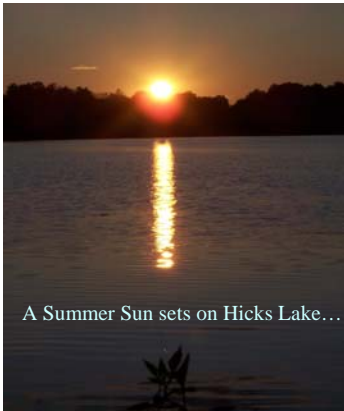
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## Weevil Planting Project

- **2008 Weevil Planting**

After collecting sufficient funds to plant a little over a unit of weevils, the date was set for July 2<sup>nd</sup> for the planting. The location was voted upon by the residents which was the south end of the lake near the channel. Norm and Mike took the two women from Enviroscience to the site and they located a large bed of Eurasian Milfoil on which they attached the weevils.

The site was logged with a GPS and marked with orange buoys. The site was periodically monitored by residents throughout the remainder of the summer. The milfoil in the area of the planting was noticeably diminished by the end of the summer. The little bugs did their job!



areas of the south end of the lake.

Numbers are important and the more weevils we plant into the lake, the better their chance of survival is. This is a process that takes a great deal of time and patience.

- **Weevil Project Funds**

A total of \$6625 was donated by residents of Hicks Lake for the 2008 Weevil Planting Project. 43 families or about 40% of the landowners in the immediate lake area helped out. The average contribution amount was \$154. This was a phenomenal showing of solidarity toward the weed and water quality issues at Hicks Lake. The residents that contributed are listed later in this newsletter. Thanks to all who supported the 2008 planting!

A checking account was created for the project and the funds were deposited. Below is a breakdown of the funds and how they have been used to date:

Initial Deposits:	\$6,625.00
Paid for Weevils	-\$5,996.00
Sign for Boat Landing	-\$153.70
2009 Newsletter Mailing	
Envelopes	-\$15.00
Postage	-\$70.00
Balance	\$390.30

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- **2009 Weevil Planting**

Another weevil planting is planned for 2009. The suggested target area this year is the north end of the lake near the boat landing. We are shooting again for the first of July for the planting. This time of the summer seems to be good because the milfoil is just getting established and is growing near the surface for easy access.

We are now asking for contributions towards this year's goal of another area of weevils (4 units / approx. \$5000.) We are asking that each family contribute whatever they can toward the program. Last year the average contribution was \$150. We know times are tough but the milfoil doesn't care about our economic situation. It will just keep growing so please consider helping out.

A form is included with this newsletter along with an addressed envelope. If you decide to help out with this project, please fill out the sheet, enclose your gift in the form of a check or money order, and send it back to us in the enclosed envelope. We can also take contributions at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting at the Hartwick Township Hall.

## Website Information

Hicks Lake website URL:  
[www.hickslake.org](http://www.hickslake.org)



- **Updates to the website**

The website has been reworked to make it more aesthetically pleasing and organized. Comments on the new format are always welcome. Barbara Love sent a comment to us about the website portraying Hicks Lake as “a pond full of weeds.” We considered this to be a well thought-out comment and we immediately changed the home page to reflect Hicks Lake in a more positive light.

- **Pictures for the website**

Please email any pictures that you would like to see on the website to [webmaster@hickslake.org](mailto:webmaster@hickslake.org) We will do our best to put them in the photo viewer in the website.

- **Email List**

We are managing an email list and will from time to time send out information over the internet via email. If you would like to be included in the email list for Hicks Lake, please send a message telling us you would like to be added and we will do so: Send your message to: [webmaster@hickslake.org](mailto:webmaster@hickslake.org)

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Misc.

- **Is Your Cottage for Rent?**

We were contacted via the website by a gentleman from Tennessee who asked if we knew of any cottages for rent on Hicks Lake. We told him that we did not know of any but would put the word out that he was looking. If you are interested in renting your place for a couple of weeks this summer, please contact Mike Ritzer for more information.

Thanks for taking the time to look over this material. We look forward to seeing all of you on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, Hartwick Township Hall.



Sincerely,  
Mike Ritzer C: 269-370-4497  
O: 269-382-6460  
Norm Klein O: 313-299-3100  
Email: [webmaster@hickslake.org](mailto:webmaster@hickslake.org)

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Contributors to the 2008 Hicks Lake Weevil Project.

Thanks to all who participated last year!

Chris and Sandra	Altemann
Glen and Doris	Arnst
Charles and Nancy	Bailey
Larry and Nancy	Beckwith
James and Joanne	Braun
Ruth & Joseph & David	Casaroll
Norman and Nila	Cooper
Kenneth and Sharon	Cooper
Rodney	Courser
Robert and Rita	Desantis
Fernand and Patricia	Deschamps
Donald and Ursula	Dobbs
Walter and Karen	Eckles
Jack and Ruth	Floyd
Mary	Freling
Brenda & Bob	Frays
Randy and Norma	Hackett
Gordon and Hazel	Harvey
Mr. and Mrs. Verle	Holzgen
Donna and son Michael	Hopkins
Tim	Kennedy
Thomas and Carolyn	Kenny
Norman and Shirley	Klein
Dennis and Cynthia	Mazurek
James Sr	McCarthy
Daniel and Georgena	Miller
Clifford and Kathleen	Norris
Michael and Sherry	Polanski
Mike and Leisa	Ritzer
Nancy	Romanek
David and Mary	Roth
Patricia & Clark	Semaan
David and Janet	Sifferman
Ted and Catherine	Smith
Gordon and Phyllis and Patti	Sneller & Ethridge
Shirley	Stark
The	VanScoyoc Family
Janet & Peter	Volk
Douglas and Helen	Winslow
Wayne and Cynthia	Winslow
William	Yambrick
Paul and Mary Lou	Yambrick
Tony	Yambrick