Eagle Lake Improvement Association (ELIA)

Winter '25 | Fall 2026 Newsletter

Overview | Lake Level/Water Level | Board of Directors

Membership Dues

We Need Your Help!

We're behind on our goal of 510 paid members for 2026—currently, we're at 162. If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so today! You can also join ELIA if you haven't been a member before.

Your membership helps fund essential projects that protect the value of your home and the quality of Eagle Lake, including:

- Planning for dam replacement
- Water quality testing
- Algae quality testing
- Work on a proposed trail connecting to North Eagle Road
- Maintenance of the walking path on the south end of Eagle Lake

We all want Eagle Lake to remain a clean, desirable lake with good water quality. Dues help us keep the lake healthy, support long-term planning, and fund the testing and work that keeps Lake Membership truly resident-first and neighborly.

- Pay online: Click here to pay via Venmo & ID just like online ELIA.
- Pay by the mail: Click for a download the membership sign form.

Early payments help us plan our budget more effectively, and maximize the impact of your contributions. You can pay your 2027 dues now!

Your Eagle Lake Board Members

- Virginia Fabricius - President
- Jennifer Hanchett - Secretary
- Scott VanBuren - Treasurer
- Mitch Harrison - Secretary
- Jason Kimball
- Gerrit Cornell
- Dan Lohman
- Deb Nash

Thank you to outgoing board members – Dan Fumarolo, Wyatt Wordsworth, and Kevin Bemis!

Leaf Pickup – Saturday, October 31, 2026

As that time of year again. It's all still be coming around the side to pick up your leaf bags and bring them to the county leaf pile.

Please, no bags of grass clippings, brush, brush, Bermuda's, soil, or garbage. Bag leaves when they are dry to keep them light.

Each year, we collect 500-800 bags. We'd love your help!! Please contact Virginia Fabricius at 616-292-0000 if you can help get it loaded. If you have a truck, your help would be greatly appreciated!!

- Date: Saturday, October 31, 2026
- Time: Place leaf bags at the end of your driveway by 8:00 AM
- Location: Boat Landing - 8:00 AM

Annual Meeting Recap

The Annual Meeting for ELIA was held in the summer for the first time. After much feedback from residents, the board made this change so that residents who are "snowbirds" could attend the meeting. The 2026 meeting was held virtually via zoom meeting. Unfortunately, we had our busiest attendance to date of approximately 70 new residents.

The virtual meeting served a special purpose: a retaining wall voting for updated bylaws & bylaws for the Lake Association, which had not been updated since the 80's!

We had two presenters:

- Mel Grana - Kent/North Public Works Director who discussed the walking path
- Jason Hanchett - Environmental Specialist who discussed Eagle Lake
- Sara Swanson - Environmental Specialist who discussed landfill sprinkler types and the impact on our local environment and lakes

We would love to see more lake residents join and meet at the annual meeting in 2027. It's a great opportunity to meet your lake neighbors, develop community, and learn more about the lake and what's happening around it.

Mark your calendars tentatively for Friday, August 6, 2027.

Rough Fish Removal Update

Unfortunately, due to state laws, no rough fish were removed from the lake in 2026. Rural members met with commercial fishermen, Aaron Gregor, to discuss a plan for the removal of rough fish from Eagle Lake and Lake Membership. The goal is to control all the rough fish to the rough fish and be used throughout a season regardless of what levels or poetry mustrate. The board passed the commission to move forward. The DNR has been notified of the plan and is working on the permitting. Aaron has completed the trap and will set it up once ice is out in the spring. ELIA wants to thank Dan for the matching grant from Kent/North County. The board hopes to receive the final permit in time to begin fishing in the channel, as this is a "one shot" opportunity. The plan is to remove the fish and sell them to a fish buyer in Hesperia. Our hope is that the carp has will be able to be used for years to come in continued efforts to remove rough fish from Eagle Lake.

Please note, residents will still be needed to cover the cost of the removal and delivery of the rough fish. Are there any of your continued support?

Call to Action - Our Eagle Lake Community

Is your address current on record? Are you getting our emails? Are you here? If you have not received a message from us, please reach out to us today, so that everyone's mailing database, we want to know!

The board would like to recognize them in the newsletters so others are informed that they have closely connected with their lake community.

- Kevin Bemis - Eagle Harbour – 2025 and 2026 Lindsay Marks – 2025 Ann Arbor

New Residents:

- Paul & Brittany Kelly – west end
- Jason Hanchett & Kelly Johnson (new full-time residents) – north end
- Stephen & Jessica Worsham – west side
- Austin Larson – north end
- Kevin & Michelle Doudlebus – west side
- Jeff & Kelly Bolhuis – west side

Deceased Residents:

- Wanda Dull – passed April 29, 2026
- Jerry Baker – passed June 2, 2026
- Ed Dvocka – passed August 11, 2026

Neighborly Kindness

One family on the south end likes to decorate all their neighbor's mailboxes with Christmas lights and spread that they grow in their garden.

Upcoming Events

Fall Leaf Pickup – Saturday, October 31, 2026
Winter Social - January 2027 - Date TBD
Eagle Lake Rummage Sales – Friday/Saturday, May 7-8, 2027

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Mission Statement

We are a non-profit organization committed to enhancing, preserving, and protecting the quality of Eagle Lake and its watershed. In collaboration with public agencies, we promote responsible environmental practices and provide information and education to the Eagle Lake community through newsletters, events, and other activities.