

Truesdale Estates Association  
PO Box 363  
South Salem, NY 10590

**WELCOME!**

The Truesdale Estates Association (TEA) extends a warm welcome to you. We want to inform you about the unique area you have just moved to and educate you about living in a lake watershed.

First, let's begin with a little background on TEA and its activities. The Truesdale Lake Property Owners Association (TLPOA), a private and exclusive club with 20 summer time residents, created the 83.3 acre Lake in 1927 by damming a stream and flooding a small pond and surrounding swamp. TEA was formed in the early 1930's when the land on the west side of Lake Truesdale was purchased from TLPOA. The primary water flow into the Lake comes from the swamp on Pumping Station Road in Ridgefield. Membership in TEA is evidenced by deeded lake rights.

A copy of TEA's by-laws is enclosed as is a copy of the beach and beach party rules. TEA owns and operates a private beach located next to 21 Truesdale Lake Drive. The beach is open between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend to members who are current in their membership dues. Dues are billed in April and are payable in May of each year. TEA also owns several smaller parcels of land around the Lake where members in good standing are welcome to leave their stickered boats (see below).

TEA's activities fall into five main categories:

- Study the Lake to detect any changes in water quality
- Act to prevent any deterioration of the Lake
- Manage the beach
- Educate residents
- Sponsor social events

Lake Truesdale is a beautiful resource that requires special care. Please keep reading to see how you can contribute to the Lake's well being. Visit <http://www.truesdalelake.com> for the latest news and events.

**YOUR ROLE IN PRESERVING LAKE TRUESDALE**

As mentioned above, our Lake is a man-made lake. A natural process called eutrophication occurs over time that will convert any lake into a swamp and then a meadow. That process has long since begun in Lake Truesdale. Since 1957, a continuous program of Lake treatment and management has been followed under the direction of professional aquatic biologists and with the approval of the appropriate agencies. Its purpose has been to control weed and algae growth. The eutrophication process is hastened by development, which adds nutrients and sediment to the Lake. To see the effects of eutrophication, visit the south end of the Lake (opposite end from the dam).

There is much you can do to slow the process. Many of the decisions you make in and about your new home will have a direct impact on the Lake. Here are 10 simple guidelines to preserve and enhance the natural beauty and health of Lake Truesdale.

1. **Maintain your septic system.** Nothing feeds weeds so well as human effluent and detergents that flow from a poorly maintained septic system. Routine maintenance is critical to keeping sludge and scum from accumulating in your septic tank and clogging your drain fields. If your home is on the Lake, have your septic tank pumped and inspected every year. If you are set back, have it done at least every two years. Maintaining your septic will lengthen the life of the system and spare you expensive repairs over time. The Lake Management Committee has negotiated a discount with Kaiser-Battistone (232-8818). Identify yourself as a Truesdale Lake resident when making your appointment.

The following rules will extend the life and effectiveness of your system:

- a. Don't deposit coffee grounds, cooking fats, paper towels, tissues, cigarette butts, sanitary napkins, condoms or other similar materials into your toilet or drains. Throw them in the trash. The less put into your septic tank, the better.
- b. If your sink has a garbage disposal, don't use it. Ground garbage clogs the drainage field.
- c. Use phosphate-free detergent and dish soap.
- d. Conserve water to avoid overloading your system. Fix leaks.

2. **Eliminate (or at least minimize) lawn and garden fertilization.** Fertilizer run-off stimulates weed and algae growth in the Lake. If you feel you must use fertilizers, please test your soil to make sure you are applying the proper nutrients/minerals and use a phosphorous free fertilizer. Fertilize lawns no more than once a year – optimally in September. Consider using native plants for a self-sustaining lawn and garden.
3. **Keep weeds, clippings, leaves, wood chips, and branches out of the Lake and nearby drainage areas.** These will contribute phosphorous to the Lake. Never throw fireplace ashes into the Lake. Ashes contain nitrogen, phosphorous and carbon – all accelerate aquatic plant growth. Keep compost piles 150 feet away from the shoreline or areas that convey water into the Lake.
4. **Preserve your trees and shrubs;** they are weapons for conserving the Lake. Each plant slows erosion, absorbs run-off and provides a natural buffer between the Lake and the nutrients and sediment that run into it. If you lose a tree or shrub, replace it (preferably with a native). If an arborist or professional landscaper recommends chemical treatments, try to use only horticultural oil sprayed away from the Lake (a viable alternative for saving hemlocks). Pesticides that are deemed reasonably safe for mammals may have a devastating effect on inhabitants of the Lake.
5. **Get a Truesdale Lake identification sticker for your boat.** It is available from Mark Patek at 763-8078 for **free**. The stickers help others recognize your boat and all of us to recognize boats that don't belong on the Lake. Among the greatest threats to fresh water bodies is the zebra mussel – a tiny shellfish that devours plankton, which starves fish and other aquatic life higher up the food chain. The zebra mussel is in fresh water in our area. Please do not use your boat on other water bodies without first drying it in the sun for two days; that will prevent transporting invasive aquatic weeds that exist in our Lake to other bodies of water. Conversely, if you do use your boat in other water, wash it down and dry it in the sun for at least two days. Better yet, have it steam-cleaned by the NYC Department of Environmental Protection in Katonah (232-1309). If you see a boat without a sticker on Lake Truesdale, please politely inquire about whether or not the boat is local. If the boaters aren't cooperative, call the **Lewisboro Police at 763-8903** or the **State Police at 277-3651**. Our Lake is private property; we have both the right and the obligation to control it. This isn't about exclusion; it is about preservation.
6. **Be a friend to wildlife; don't feed the geese.** Historically, Canada Geese were migratory. Doing anything that discourages their instincts makes them dependent on human beings and threatens other aquatic life by disrupting natural cycles. Geese droppings add bacteria and nutrients to the Lake while removing oxygen as it decomposes. Both conditions accelerate eutrophication.
7. **Use extra care with detergents and hazardous chemicals.** As mentioned above, avoid all household cleaning agents that contain phosphorous. Try to use environmentally friendly homemade products. Although they may require a bit more elbow grease, they are significantly less expensive (see enclosed article). Never use soap or other cleaning products in the Lake. One gallon of gasoline has the potential to pollute 1 million gallons of groundwater. For that reason, wash your car at a commercial car wash. Avoid spills when changing oil and take waste oil to the gas station for recycling. Read labels carefully, follow instructions and dispose of excess materials and containers appropriately. Never pour excess product into your drain! Wait for chemical disposal days sponsored quarterly by Westchester County.
8. **Curb your dog.** Animal waste feeds aquatic weeds and increase bacterial count. Not only is it unpleasant to step on, but there are also some serious health reasons for avoiding dog poop. Dog feces can carry potentially harmful pathogens to humans and other pets alike. Certain diseases such as Toxocarosis (Roundworm infection) and Ancylostomosis (Hookworm infection) can be transmitted to other dogs and possibly children by the ingestion of contaminated feces.
9. **Join a local conservation group.** Groups such as The Lewisboro Conservation Advisory Committee (763-3822), The Nature Conservancy (242-0091) and the Lewisboro Land Trust (763-5767) are leading the conservation effort in Lewisboro. Other valuable resources are the Cornell Cooperative Extension (285-4640 and 285-4630 –garden and home, respectively) and the Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College (785-7870).
10. **Support Truesdale Estates Association.** Pay your dues on time and volunteer. Our greatest asset is the diversity of backgrounds, interests and skills that our members bring to our community. We invite you to participate. Please call a Board member for further information (listing enclosed).



Truesdale Estates Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 363  
South Salem, NY 10590

November 30, 2006

## Association Resolution

Truesdale Estates Association: New officers for 2007-2008

<u>Office</u>	<u>Holder</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
President	Glenn Capobianco	977-3135
Vice President	Alan King	763-9643
Treasurer	Robert Cummings	763-0881
Recording Secretary	Dick Connell	763-3190
Corresponding Secretary	Rosemarie McCarthy	763-0744
Sergeant at Arms	Ira Sanchick	763-6515
Board Members:	Harron Appleman	763-3295
	Debbie Fink	763-5378
	Tom Houlihan	763-6732
	Jim Curry	763-3442
	Theresa McAvey	763-6405
	Melissa Scarlatto	763-0140
	Carol Gamez	763-5364
	Sylvain Cote	962-0809
	Kevin Conway (beach co-chair)	763-3243

Signed,

Glenn Capobianco  
President, Truesdale Estates Association  
914-763-0881



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### **TEA Beach Rules**

- 1) Beach hours are from 11:00AM to 7:00PM. During weekdays before school ends, beach hours are 3PM – 7PM.
- 2) All members must sign in each day with the lifeguard as this is a private beach.
- 3) Beach use is limited to paid Regular and Associate Members. Regular Members may have guests. Associate Members are limited to out-of-town guests and relatives.
- 4) If a Member wishes to bring 10 or more guests, please check in advance with the Beach Chairperson or an Association Officer for the proper approval to have a large group at the beach at a particular time. Additional party rules may apply.
- 5) A Member must accompany their guests at all times.
- 6) An adult must accompany children under the age of 14.
- 7) Swimming is only permitted when the lifeguard is on duty.
- 8) The lifeguard reserves the right to test any person's swimming ability.
- 9) NO DIVING from the Swimming float and no jumping off the back of the float. The lifeguard's view must not be obstructed.
- 10) Boats (canoes, sailboats, sailboards, etc.) may be used outside the designated swimming area and must have a proper boat permit. Please contact Mark Patek 768-3078 for a Truesdale Lake boat permit application.
- 11) Boats with a proper Truesdale Lake permit may be stored on the TEA-owned lot across the lake at the corner of Lake Shore Drive and Gilbert Street. The access road adjoining beach may be used for boat launching only. No boat storage on the TEA beach property except one boat needed for lifeguard access. Associate members are not permitted to keep a boat on TEA properties.
- 12) NO DOGS or other pets are allowed on the beach at any time.
- 13) No glass bottles or objects are permitted in the beach area.
- 14) Proper attire must be worn at all times.
- 15) The lifeguard has the right to ask anyone to leave the beach for failure to comply with any of the above rules. He/she may also request anyone leave for excessive roughhousing or objectionable behavior and for safety reasons such as lightning storms.



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## **TEA BEACH PARTY RULES**

- **Paid Regular Members or Associate Members are eligible to have a party at the TEA Beach, first come-first served.**
- An application must be obtained prior to a party of 10 or more people.
- Parties of 10 or more are required to hire their own lifeguard
- Proper proof of lifeguard certification must accompany application
- You are responsible for the clean up of the beach after your party
- Follow all TEA Beach Rules
- For application: Melissa Scarlato 763-0140



TRUESDALE ESTATES ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED

South Salem, NY

BY-LAWS

A Revision

of the Constitution and By-Laws  
as Amended

Spring, 1998 and Fall, 1998

and Ratified Spring, 1999

## ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this corporation shall be Truesdale Estates Association, Inc.

## ARTICLE II PURPOSES

### Section 1

The Association is a non-profit organization.

### Section 2

The purposes of the Association are:

- a. The fostering of such Association policies as will tend to be beneficial to the property owners in Sections A, B, C, D and E of Truesdale Lake Estates and which promote the development of the beaches and lake, and to ensure the peace and safety of the property owners.
- b. To hold meetings at such times as may be designated by the Board members and their duly authorized officers for the purpose of discussing and transacting such business as may properly come before such meetings.
- c. To provide civic, social and sports facilities and activities and to otherwise promote the welfare of the community by the promulgation and enforcement of regulations for the betterment of the community.

## ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1

Property owners in Sections A, B, C, D and E of the Truesdale Lake Estates in the Town of Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, shall be eligible to become members of the Association on the day they acquire ownership in said Sections subject to the approval of the Membership Committee.

### Section 2

There shall be the following classes of membership:

- a. Regular Member - A Regular Member shall be a property owner or adult family member (21 years or older) of any property in any of the sections as indicated in Sections 1 of Article III who shall be free from any indebtedness to the Association.
- b. Tenant Member - A Tenant Member shall be a tenant occupying property in any of the sections as indicated in Section 1 of Article II above. A Tenant Member shall be entitled to all of the privileges of the Association, assuming that the original property is free from any indebtedness to the Association, *but shall have no voting rights or right to attend meetings.*
- c. Associate Member - An Associate Member may be anyone recommended by any Regular Members and approved by the Board. Associate Members are subject to annual review and approval by membership committee. Maximum membership is determined by general membership. *Associate Members shall have no voting rights or right to attend meetings.*
- d. Lake Shore Drive Members - That the section located on Lake Shore Drive with no affiliation to TEA or TLPOA will be invited to join as members on an annual basis and their dues to be determined by the Board annually. *Lake Shore Drive Members shall have no voting*



*rights or right to attend meetings.*

### Section 3

Privileges - The privileges of the Association shall be accorded to the immediate family of any Regular, Tenant Associate Member or Lake Shore Drive Member free of indebtedness to the Association.

### Section 4

- a. **Regular Member** - The dues for a Regular Member shall be recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership. There shall also be an initiation fee for new members in the amount of the annual dues. Dues and initiation fees may only be changed by vote of general membership.
- b. **Tenant Member** - The dues for a Tenant Member shall be the same as for a Regular Member. Tenant members are not subject to initiation fees.
- c. **Associate Member** - The dues for Associate Members shall be determined by Board of Directors annually. Payment is due upon receipt.
- d. **Lake Shore Drive Members** - Which the section located on Lake Shore Drive with no affiliation to TEA or TLPOA will be invited to join as members on an annual basis and their dues to be determined by the Board annually. Payment is due upon receipt.
- e. **Schedule of Payments** - Annual dues are payable within 30 days of bills being issued. Regular Members who do not pay their dues within 30 days are subject to lose all privileges accorded to Regular Members.

### Section 5

Assessments - Any special assessment needed to meet the budget requirements of the Association shall be established according to the needs thereof by the Board of Directors. Such assessments as may be made shall be payable within thirty days of notice to the membership by the Board of Directors of such assessment.

### Section 6

Proposal for Membership - Candidates for all classes of membership (except Regular and Tenant Members) shall be approved by the Board. Requirements with respect to posting, eligibility, endorsements, acceptance, etc., in connection with proposals for membership shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

### Section 7

Members in good standing; termination, resignation and suspension of membership \_  
Membership in the Corporation may be terminated by the Board of Directors as follows:

- a. By acceptance of the voluntary resignation of a member in any class, addressed in writing to the Secretary, except that no resignation shall be accepted from any member indebted to the Association for any amounts due it or be effective until such indebtedness shall have been paid in full, the date of such resignation to be fixed by the Board of Directors, and such a member shall be considered as "resigned".
- b. For failure to meet any indebtedness to the Association, including dues and assessment charges within such periods as may be fixed by the Board of Directors, such members

shall be considered as suspended. Before suspension, the members shall be notified of outstanding dues and/or any special assessment at a time deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. Thirty days thereafter, they shall be suspended from the Association and shall be so notified by certified mail.

- c. For any violation of the provisions of the By-Laws or rules or regulations, or for any act improper or injurious to the Association, such member shall be considered as "expelled".

### **Section 8**

The Board of Directors by reinstate any "resigned", "suspended", or "expelled" member in accordance with procedure to be fixed by it.

### **Section 9**

At any time within ninety days after a member shall have been suspended or expelled, a meeting of the Association shall be called if a request in writing by twenty voting members is addressed to the Secretary. At such meeting appeal from the decision of the Board of Directors may be made and the suspended or expelled status may be revoked by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

## **ARTICLE IV DIRECTORS**

### **Section 1**

Number - The affairs and business of the Association shall be managed by a Board of at least five (5) and no more than nine (9) Directors and six (6) Officers, each of whom shall have one vote in the transaction of any business of the Association. All Directors and Officers shall be Regular Resident Members and it shall be the policy of the Association to attempt to have representation on the Board of Directors and among the Officers from all Sections of Truesdale Lake Estates as indicated in Section 1 of Article III. Each household will be permitted one position. At no time will more than one member of a household serve on the Board of Directors.

### **Section 2**

How Elected - The Directors and Officers of the Association shall be elected each year at the Fall meeting and they shall serve for a term of two years. An Officer may be re-elected for a second two-year term, but may not be re-elected to the same position. Appropriate Committee Chairman shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 3**

Vacancies - Any vacancy in a directorship or in an office of the Association, whether, because of death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by a Regular Member of the Association who is in good standing and who has been approved and appointed by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of such directorship or office.

### **Section 4**

Duties of Directors - The Board of Directors shall have the control and general management of the affairs and business of the Association. Such Directors shall in all cases act as a Board, regularly convened by a majority, and they may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of their meetings and the management of the Association as they may deem proper, not inconsistent with these By-Laws and the Laws for the State of New York. Board of Directors shall present an expense budget for approval to the general membership meeting at the Spring

meeting. Board of Directors may not exceed total budget limitations by more than 20% or \$500 (whichever is largest) without approval of general membership.

#### Section 5

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held in the Fall and Spring and thereafter at such times as the Board of Directors may determine. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President at any time. Upon the written request of five (5) Directors and/or Officers combined, the President or Secretary shall call a meeting.

#### Section 6

Notice of Meetings - Notice of meetings, other than the regular Fall meetings shall be given by service upon each Director in person, or by mailing to him at his last known post-office address, at least five (5) days before the date therein designated for such meeting including the day of mailing, of a written or printed notice thereof specifying the time and place of such meeting, and no business other than that specified in such notice shall be transacted at any special meeting. At any meeting at which every member of the Board of Directors shall be present, although held without notice, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted if the meeting had been duly called.

#### Section 7

Quorum - Six members shall constitute a quorum - at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, duly called in accordance with these By-Laws and majority vote shall rule. The six members cannot all be Officers.

#### Section 8

Voting - At all meetings of the Board of Directors, each Director and Officer is to have one vote. Unless expressly indicated to the contrary, every officer shall also be considered a Director for all of the purposes as set forth in Article IV, so that the full Board of Directors contains a total of at least eleven (11) and no more than fifteen (15) Regular Members, six (6) of whom are Officers and at least five (5) but no more than nine (9) of whom are hereby Directors.

#### Section 9

Removal of Directors - Anyone or more of the Directors may be removed with cause by a majority vote at any special meeting of the Association at which at least 25 percent of the members of the Association are present. A member of the Board of Directors who shall be absent from one-third (1/3) or more of the regular Board meetings within a one year period shall automatically cease to be a member of the Board.

### ARTICLE V OFFICERS

#### Section 1

Number - The Officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Sergeant at Arms.

#### Section 2

Election - The Officers shall be elected every other year at the Fall meeting of the Association.

#### Section 3

The duties and powers of the Officers of the Association shall be as follows:

### President

- a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association or special meetings thereof.
- b. The President shall report to the Fall meeting of the Association and to the Directors of the condition and business of the Association.
- c. The President shall call regular and special meetings of the Associate in accordance with the By-Laws.
- d. The President shall appoint all committees subject to the confirmation by the Board of Directors and see that the same fulfill their duties.
- e. The President shall direct the activities of the Association between meetings of the Board of Directors and shall sign and make all contracts and agreements, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Office of the President shall sign all certificates of stock notes or drafts and shall countersign all checks.
- f. The President shall enforce the By-Laws and perform all duties of the position and office as required by law.
- g. The President shall assume the responsibility of the Association's mail.
- h. In the event of a tie vote at meetings of the Association the President shall cast the deciding vote.

### Vice President

- a. The Vice President shall assist the President in all matters pertaining to the Association.
- b. During the absence and inability of the President to perform the duties, the same shall be performed by the Vice President and when so acting, the Vice President shall have all the powers and duties imposed upon the President.

### Recording Secretary

- a. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Association.
- b. The Recording Secretary shall call the roll of Officers.
- c. The Recording Secretary shall keep a correct list of all standing committees and special meetings with notes on their functions and when they are to report.
- d. The Recording Secretary shall provide the President with an agenda for each meeting following the order of business set forth herein below.

### Corresponding Secretary

- a. The Corresponding Secretary shall give and serve all notices to the Association members.
- b. The Corresponding Secretary shall attend to all correspondence and present to the Board of Directors all communications and bills.

### Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds and securities of the Association and shall issue receipts therefor and deposit such funds in the name of the Association in such bank or banks as the Board of Directors may designate within ten days of the time collected.
- b. The Treasurer shall have the power to sign certificates of stock and checks of the Association.

- c. The Treasurer shall be bonded by a security company as may be determined by the Board of Directors for a minimum of \$2,000.00 or if the Treasury of the Association be in excess of that amount then in the amount of the funds in said Treasury.
- d. The Treasurer shall keep a true book of all receipts and disbursements and ensure that a financial report is given at every meeting of the Board of Directors and of the Association.
- e. The Treasurer shall do and perform all duties of the office of Treasurer and shall submit his books of account for auditing at such times and to such persons as the Board of Directors may determine.
- f. The Treasurer shall prepare an Association expense budget and present same for approval at the Spring meeting of the general membership.

#### Sergeant At Arms

- a. The Sergeant At Arms shall assist the President in keeping order at meetings.
- b. The Sergeant At Arms shall permit no one to enter meetings of the Association, except members and such persons as may be granted permission by the Association.

### ARTICLE VI NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

#### Section 1

A Nominating Committee consisting of at least three Regular Members of the Association in good standing shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at a meeting to serve until the next following election.

The Nominating Committee shall, twenty days before the Fall meeting of the Association, nominate members to serve as Officers and Directors. The Secretary shall mail to each member of the Association, twenty days before the Fall meeting, a copy of the report of the Nominating Committee.

#### Section 2

In addition to the procedure in Section 1 above, nominations may be made from the floor at the Fall meeting. Only members in good standing who are Regular Members of the Association may be elected to office, which term of office shall be for two (2) years.

#### Section 3

A nominee for the Executive Board must be a resident member of the Association for at least one year. A member may be elected to only one office. Each adult Regular Member of the Association shall have one vote, but the number of votes shall be limited to two (2) votes per household.

#### Section 4

Elections shall take place at the Fall meeting of an election year of the Association. At the election, the President shall appoint two (2) election judges, who shall count and record the vote. The Installation of Officers shall take place immediately after the election.

## **Section 5**

All voting shall be by majority vote and shall be either by voice or by ballot as determined by the President. In the absence of any special provision for voting, voting shall take place in accordance with the provisions of the corporation laws of the State of New York.

## **ARTICLE VII MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **Section 1**

Fall Meeting - The Fall meeting of the Association shall take place at such time and location as determined by the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall serve notice personally or by mail at least ten (10) days before said meeting on each member of the Association at the mailing address as the same appears on the books of the Association.

### **Section 2**

Regular Meetings - In addition to the Fall meeting, there will be a Spring meeting at a time and location to be determined by the Board of Directors. Notice of such meetings shall be served by the Secretary in a manner indicated in Section 1 above.

### **Section 3**

Special Meetings - Special meetings of the members other than those provided above may be called at any time by a majority of the Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be given in a manner as provided in Section 1 of this Article. No business other than that specified in the call for the meeting shall be transacted at any special meeting.

### **Section 4**

Quorum - The presence, in person or by proxy, of 15 percent of the Regular Members entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting. Included within this 15 percent, there must be at least 8 members from the Board of Directors.

### **Section 5**

Voting - At all meetings of the members of the Association the manner of deciding questions, unless otherwise regulated by the statutes of the State of New York, shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present either in person or by proxy. All voting shall be either by voice or ballot, at the direction of the President.

### **Section 6**

Order of Business - The order of business at all meetings shall be as follows:

1. Roll call
2. Proof of notice of meeting or waiver of notice
3. Reading of minutes of preceding meeting
4. Reading of communications bills and receipts
5. Reports of officers
6. Reports of committees
7. Unfinished business
8. New business
9. Payment of dues
10. Elections (if at Fall meeting)

## **ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENT**

### **Section 1**

How Amended. These By-Laws may be altered, amended, repealed or added to by the following manner:

- a. A proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the Board 15 days prior to a Spring or Fall general meeting. A copy of the proposed amendment must be mailed to the membership with notice of said Spring or Fall meeting.
- b. At said meeting the proposed written amendment will be read and submitted to a vote. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Regular Members in good standing present at a duly called and regular meeting of the Association will be sufficient to pass such an amendment. The presence of said two-thirds of the members may be in person or by proxy.

## **ARTICLE IX DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **Section 1**

The Association cannot be dissolved while one-third of the total membership in good standing remains and desires to retain the Charter. If dissolved, the Association shall be dissolved in accordance with the Charter of Incorporation and with the laws of the State of New York.

### **Section 2**

In the event of dissolution, all moneys in the Treasury shall be turned over to a charity in the Town of Lewisboro as may be agreed upon at a regular meeting of the members of the Association.

# DO YOUR PART TO PRESERVE THE HEALTH OF OUR LAKE

“Treat the Earth well. It was not given to you by your parents;  
it was loaned to you by your children.”

Ecologist Lee Talbot

## *What you can do*

Good stewardship by the individual, whether a lake homeowner or simply a lake user, can do much to enhance the lake environment and serve as a beginning for sound lake management. Although most of the following comments are directed to lake homeowners, many also apply to those who live anywhere within a lake's watershed. Your collective efforts will yield the greatest dividends for you and the lake. Here's what you can do to protect and improve a lake by minimizing polluted runoff.

## *1. Plan Wisely Before Building*

The location of a house or cabin and septic system can negatively affect the lake if not sited properly. Minimize any impacts by following these guidelines.

- **Don't let the house intrude upon the lake.** Position a new house and any future additions to meet horizontal setbacks and vertical elevation requirements and to avoid damage if the lake rises dramatically in the future. Preserve as much natural vegetation as possible between the house and the lake to filter sediments and nutrients from surface runoff.
- **Consider other facilities, particularly wells and septic systems, when siting the house.** The septic system should receive priority since adequate soil conditions are necessary for its proper functioning. Site evaluators and many sewage system installers can conduct soil borings and percolation tests and consult soil maps and data to determine the best location on the lot. Wells should be located upslope from sewage systems and be deep and cased whenever possible. A site sketch of the lot, drawn to scale, will help to decide the best locations for all facilities and is often required when obtaining permits.
- **Make sure the contractors know which trees should be saved.** Fence off areas to protect trees and roots from construction damage.
- **Don't place a road or wide path down to the lake.** This creates a direct route for runoff. Make the path narrow and curvilinear. If access along a steep slope is needed, consider a wooden stairway rather than a path. This will help reduce runoff to the lake.

## *2. Create a Buffer Zone*

To protect the lake, minimize any changes to the natural waterfront.

- **Think twice before putting in a lawn down to the lake.** A short turf may attract nuisance geese. Determine how much area is really needed for recreation. For example, on a 100 foot lot, maybe a 25 foot wide strip of lawn for access to the dock and swimming area would be adequate. Leave the rest in natural vegetation.
- **Plant native grasses.** For areas with no buffer zone, replant with native grasses\*, wildflowers, trees, and shrubs. These plants take up nutrients for their own metabolism reducing the amount of nutrients entering the lake. The buffer should be a minimum of 15 feet wide and preferably 25 feet wide around the lake to protect the shoreline and filter pollution. Turf environments should grade into coarse grass buffers and then to shrubs for maximum effectiveness.

## *3. Modify Yard Care*

The fertilizers you put on your lawn also fertilizes the weeds in the lake. Whether the property is on the water or not, we are all on the Lake Truesdale watershed. There are many simple practices homeowners can do to reduce pollution to their watershed and ultimately to the Lake.

- **Minimize the amount of turf.** Plant more of the yard in native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees.
- **Replace your turf lawn with hardy drought resistant grass mixtures.** A resistant grass mixture will stand up to more pests and disease, requiring less pesticides and fertilization. Lawns that require frequent watering often lose the fertilizer's nutrients into the lake and streams. Also consider avoiding Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass which attracts waterfowl because they find it particularly tasty.
- **Minimize the use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers, which can harm the lake.** Typically lawn fertilizers are water-soluble and their use should be minimized near open water. Soil samples\*\* can be analyzed to determine if phosphorus is needed and if not needed, no more phosphorus should be applied. **One pound of phosphorus can grow up to 500 lbs of plants or algae.** A 50 Lb. bag of commercial lawn fertilizer contains



between 2 1/2 and 7 1/2 lbs. of phosphorous. At a minimum, insure that only enough fertilizer is applied to meet the needs of the lawn and plantings. If possible, discontinue fertilizer applications to trees, shrubs, flowerbeds, and turf grass in areas that drain to the lake. Applications of fertilizer should not be done immediately preceding heavy rain and only organic slow release fertilizers should be used when available. Fertilizer should not be applied more than once per year.

- **Cut turf grass at a height of 2 1/2 - 3".** Aerate the lawn to promote infiltration. Use a mulching lawn mower to return grass clippings to the lawn and reduce the amount of fertilizer needed.
- **Use a broom to sweep up the driveway rather than hosing it down to the storm sewers.**
- **Don't burn brush or leaves** on a slope from which ashes can wash into the lake.
- **Keep leaves, twigs and grass clippings out of the lake.** TLPOA provides leaf & twig pickup every fall to prevent them from being carried into the lake where they decompose and use oxygen. Please take advantage.

#### *4. Taking Care of Your Septic System*

It is critical for the health of our lake that we exercise care when we choose detergents and other chemicals that could find their way into Lake Truesdale. Diligent maintenance of our septic systems will prevent nutrients and bacteria from entering the lake. Even a properly operating septic system isn't entirely efficient in removing pollutants from waste. Inadequate treatment of wastewater may be a risk to human and animal health. Untreated wastewater contains viruses, bacteria, and other disease causing pathogens that can enter ground or surface water and make drinking water or beaches unfit for use. Improve the treatment of wastewater from the home by taking the following actions:

- **Consider an alternative wastewater treatment system** such as a composting toilet, gray water system, or holding tank. These systems do not pollute the soil or groundwater and should be considered for new or upgraded construction adjacent to surface waters or in areas with high water tables.
- **Don't let the septic system pollute the lake.** Proper maintenance is vital to keep the system working properly. Have the septic tank checked every two years and pumped when necessary, at least every three years.
- **Replace failing septic systems or those that are not in compliance with current rules.**
- **Use non-phosphate products.** Wash only full loads of clothes, and use water-saving showers and toilets to avoid stressing the septic system. Watch out for phosphates in soaps, water-softening products and dishwashing detergents.
- **Do not use a garbage disposal,** and keep solvents, plastics, paper, diapers, and other similar products out of your septic system. These may harm the septic system or plug the drain field. Use only minimal amounts of mild drain cleaners and cleansers.
- **Don't use septic system additives.** They are not needed and may do more harm than good.

#### *5. Reduce Runoff from the Yard*

Reducing the amount of water leaving the property reduces the pollutant load reaching the lake. Here are some ways to reduce runoff.

- **Limit the amount of impervious areas** such as driveways, sidewalks, patios, and plastic under landscape rock so that water can soak into the ground rather than run off. Asphalt driveways should be avoided, particularly those running straight into the lake. Using alternative, more porous materials are ideal. At the very least, diverting water and creating buffer zones can be a huge help.
- **Grade areas and direct runoff** so it spreads into a larger area rather than flowing in a concentrated stream.
- **Direct downspouts** onto a grass or planted area rather than the driveway or sidewalk.
- **Have the lawn aerated regularly** to reduce compaction of the soils and improve infiltration.
- **Install rain gardens or rain barrels** to collect water that would normally run off into the street.
- **Replace lawn with long, fibrous-rooted, native plants** to promote infiltration and transpiration of water.
- **Direct drainage** from the sump pump to a vegetated area where it can infiltrate.

#### *6) Discourage water birds*

Since waterfowl can contribute significant phosphorus to your pond, do everything you can to discourage them from visiting the lake and the surrounding lawns

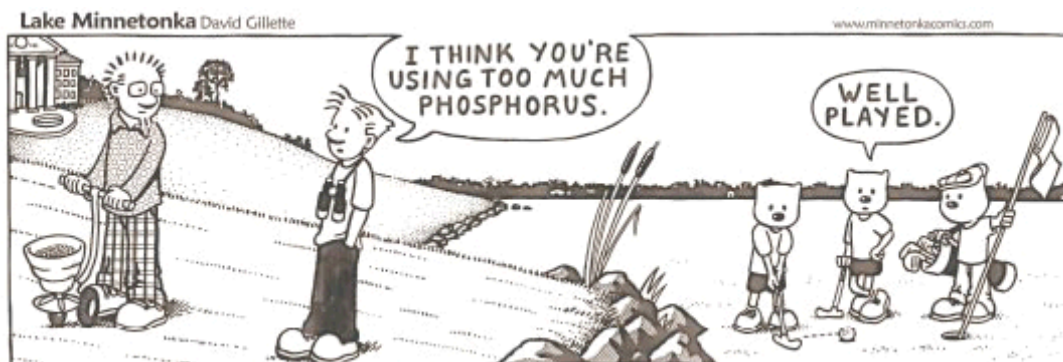
- **Do not feed geese, ducks, or other wildlife.** Bread is waterfowl's equivalent of human "junk food". Consumption of their natural diet - insects and plants - helps keep surface water clean. Large flocks of birds also create large amounts of waste and serious water pollution problems. Not only is excess excrement a nuisance, it encourages anaerobic conditions as decomposition consumes more oxygen than is readily available from water. This leads to unsightly water and unpleasant odors

- **Create that buffer zone.** Geese in particular will usually not cross a buffer to feed on lawns as they are reluctant to walk through vegetation taller than they, for fear of predators.
- **Use visual deterrents.** Mylar tape that flashes in the sunlight and hums in wind is known to repel birds. String the tape at the water's edge. Leave some slack and twist it as you string it from stake to stake.
- **Install low wires or fencing along the water front.** This will be an effective deterrent during summer molt.
- **Pick up after your pet.** For the same reason birds are discouraged, keep the shoreline and storm drains free of pet waste. Since all storm drains in our neighborhood lead to the lake, please use plastic bags and scoopers at all times around Lake Truesdale.

## 7. Modify Boating, Swimming, and Fishing Practices

Our lake is a wonderful recreational area. Help keep it safe by following these practices.

- **Replace your lead sinkers and tackle with non-lead alternatives.** The lead is toxic to loons and other waterfowl that ingest it when feeding.
- **When entering or leaving a lake, check the boat, trailer, anchor, and bait buckets for exotic species** such as Zebra Mussels or Eurasian Water Milfoil. Notify the local natural resources department if a questionable species is found. We have been lucky that our lake has not seen exotic species. If possible, keep your boat only in Truesdale Lake. If using a boat that has previously been in another body of water, steam cleaning your boat is highly recommended (DEP provides this service) to kill any organisms and substances that might otherwise dominate the ecosystem or contaminate the water supply. At the very least, hose off the entire outside of the boat, and inspect it carefully to ensure there are no plant fragments. Invasive plants such as milfoil only require a small portion of the plant to propagate.
- **Don't use the lake for trash.** Although this may seem obvious, even seemingly safe items shouldn't be thrown into the lake. For example, common aquarium plants sold in pet stores shouldn't be thrown near or into the lake because they are potentially invasive if released into the wild. Throw them into the garbage instead.
- **Don't use the lake as a toilet.** This applies to swimming, ice fishing as well as open water fishing.
- **Don't use the lake as a bathtub.** Soaps and shampoos contain nutrients and pollutants that are harmful to the lake and animal species. Wash and rinse on the land, not in the lake.



This text largely taken from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's "Guide to Lake Protection & Management" at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/lakeprotection.html>

Information supported and augmented by Land-Tech Consultants' "Lake Evaluation Study" of Lake Truesdale, Sept 2001, at [TruesdaleLake.com](http://TruesdaleLake.com).

Discouraging water birds section taken from the Truesdale Lake Management Committee: Animal Waste and Water Quality - at [TruesdaleLake.com](http://TruesdaleLake.com).

\* List of native plants and planting information by Allied Biological, the company hired to manage our lake treatments, is at [TruesdaleLake.com](http://TruesdaleLake.com)

\*\* Cornell provides analysis and recommendations on soil samples for under \$20. Go to <http://www.css.cornell.edu/soiltest/newindex.asp>.