

MLCA & WAG NEWSLETTER



Spring 2014 Edition
[HTTP://LIBERTYTOWNSHIP.ORG/COMMUNITY/MOUNTAINLAKE/INDEX.HTML](http://libertytownship.or.gov/community/mountainlake/index.html)

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- *2014 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: SPECIAL PRESENTATION ON LAKE MANAGEMENT*
- *SEPTIC MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP RECAP*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I am honored to be President of such an amazing, local non-profit. Thank you for this opportunity. I apologize for the newsletter getting to everyone so late in the year. I wanted to introduce myself to those who I have not yet met.

I consider myself a steward of my community and environment. One of my favorite quotes is by M. Gandhi, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world". Several years ago, my husband and I stumbled across Mountain Lake; falling in love with its beauty! We have set down roots here at the lake and are excited to be raising our little girls here. Both of us have a passion for the environment and ensuring that we do our part for future generations.

MLCA & WAG has been an excellent opportunity for me to serve my community and environment. As a small membership organization, all of us together are working towards a healthy environment and an enhanced quality of life. The more members, the more we can achieve. Come be a part of the change happening here at Mountain Lake!

MLCA & WAG MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

In 47 years, membership dues have been able to support a host of activities, projects and educational opportunities.

In 2014, membership dues are helping to support the same, plus more:

Herbicide Treatment & water monitoring at the lake to ensure health and recreation opportunities

Community Education opportunities

Canoe/kayak storage to be donated by MLCA & WAG to Liberty Twp. – making the lake more accessible!

Annual newsletter mailings – Option to go green and receive newsletter via email

Sponsorship of Liberty Twp.'s Community Day & Moth Night at the Pequest Hatchery

Scholarship Program – A recipient has been selected and will be announced at our annual general membership meeting!

MLCA & WAG will be at Community Day on June 14th!

Thanks to a donation of supplies and time from members Arthur Strock and Susan Dingsor – MLCA & WAG will help host a boat building kit event for kids!

Come and build a vessel to set sail on the lake and stop by and say hi!

**If you are interested in volunteering at the MLCA table, please call or email Shannon mlca.wag@gmail.com or 908.475.5122.*

Also, this year's Community Day will host a kayak race on the lake! Volunteers needed to help with the race – contact the Liberty Rec. Commission.

MLCA & WAG CALENDAR

June 14th – Liberty
Twp. Community Day

July 23rd – Moth Night
at Pequest Hatchery

July 25th - MLCA &
WAG General Meeting

Sept 27th – Birding 101
with NJ Audubon
Society

October 11th –Clean-up
at the lake

Want to see more
activities? Is there a
speaker/topic you are
interested in learning
about? Contact us with
your ideas at
mlca.wag@gmail.com!

BIRDING 101 WITH NJ AUDUBON SOCIETY

On Saturday September 27th, the NJ Audubon Society will be hosting a Birding 101 Workshop at the Mountain Lake Firehouse in Liberty Township. This is a beginner's birding workshop covering everything from selecting the right binoculars to going out and identifying birds. The event will also include a small outdoor bird identification session. **Rain or shine.** Join us at the firehouse from **8:30-10 am. Free for MLCA &WAG members.** \$10 for non-members.

BYOB...Bring Your Own Binoculars! Door prizes will be given out to get you ready to go birding! Early Birds get a morning snack...get there between 8-8:20 am for bagels and drinks.

MLCA & WAG 2014 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Join us for our annual meeting at the Mountain Lake Firehouse on July 25th from 7-8pm. A special presentation on Lake Management Plans will be provided by Allied Biological.

Lake management plans are documents that can help ensure the health and sustainability of a lake and its watershed. These plans can help identify any issues pertaining to the lake, i.e. water quality, weed control needs; necessary improvements, studies; and ensure that future boards can continue to efficiently and effectively use funds to maintain the health of the lake.

All stakeholders can participate in the development of the lake management plan. Come and join us in learning about the benefits of having a plan for Mountain Lake! Light snacks and refreshments will be available.

SEPTIC MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP RECAP

Thank you to Cindy Berniak from the Warren County Health Department for an exceptional presentation on septic management, septic laws, and alternative septic systems!

Congratulations to Phil Wooldridge for being our door prize winner for one free septic pumping, provided by MLCA & WAG.

Best Septic Management Tips:

- ✓ Regular pumping about every 3 years
- ✓ New systems have effluent filters – these baffles should be rinsed annually
- ✓ Conserve Water – reduce use, fix drips, and upgrade appliances to more water efficient ones
- ✓ Avoid harmful cleaners that can kill good bacteria in a septic, such as – bleach, ammonia, floor wax, and rug cleaners
- ✓ Use phosphate-free soaps and laundry detergents
- ✓ Avoid letting food, paper products, diapers, and toxic or flammable substances from getting down the drain
- ✓ Don't allow grease to get down the drain.

Following these and other best management practices will ensure your septic system, runs safely and efficiently! For more information on septic systems, management and codes, visit <http://www.co.warren.nj.us/Healthdept/index.html>.