

Barnes Lake Club
Annual July Report
July 9, 2023, Thru July 5, 2024

BARNES LAKE CLUB
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This report is a brief overview of Barnes Lake Club activities, projects and progress made over the past year:

➤ **August 2023:**

1. The Annual Members Picnic was held on August 5, 2023. This event was once again a total success. We had a large turn-out with a total of 204 members attending. The menu included sub sandwiches, cold salads, chips, and cookies, which have worked out well over the last couple of years. Bryans Market provided the food for this year's event. They did an outstanding job, as always! This event not only provided a fun time for all that attended, but also raised \$ 4, 028 for future community events. This year's picnic was down by seventeen guests but raised \$775 more than last year. Wally's wonderful table raised \$ 215. Everyone was very generous, thank you. Theresa Herrice took on the challenging task of collecting all of the raffle items and organizing them for the picnic. Theresa and her team did an outstanding job in collecting raffle items. They recruited items from forty-six businesses to support the raffle and our community. This event could not have been possible without all the volunteers and the donations to the raffle. What is even more amazing is the number of volunteers who helped with this event. We cannot thank all of the volunteers enough!!!!
2. Flotilla was held on August 12, 2023. The Barnes Lake Club do not sponsor this event. Each year Ron and Shanna Mills organize this event. A portion of the money raised during this event is donated to Barnes Lake Club. In 2023 they raised an amazing \$ 1,013 for the Barnes Lake Club. This included \$180.00 donated from John and Terri Allen from selling Flotilla can Koozies. They were not sure if they broke the record, but they had twenty-one boats tied together for this event. A good turn out and a fun day! The Barnes Lake Club appreciates the Flotilla Support. The money raised is put to beneficial use throughout the community.
3. The lawsuit was finale, judgement in the Clubs favor. The Club received \$11,500 from Thompson. Thompson/property owners are restricted on Park Lot use. They can use a ten' easement for access to their property, only. They are not permitted to stop, place items, park cars, etc. in the easement. The judgement was recorded at the register of deeds and posted on our website. All Lawyers' fees were paid. A fence was installed at the property lines and outlining the 10' easement at Park Lot D to avoid future problems.
4. The club dues increase was approved at the Annual Meeting held in July. Discussion took place on when and how is the best way to inform the members. Dues increased from \$50 to \$ 75.
5. We have 227 club members.
6. August 1 through August 31, 2023, total cash flow is \$ 16,374.2.

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7. Boy Scouts: 10 Scouts and four leaders attended camp. Three of the boys and two leaders completed a 50-mile canoe trip. They set up and remove tents for our Annual Picnic. The Court of Honor is set for August 13.
8. \$ 450.00 was donated for much needed repairs to Lady Liberty.
9. 13 Boat dock locations remain available within the Park Lots
10. Park Lot Q, there is a parking problem at this Park Lot. It was decided the best way to solve this issue was to put telephone poles across the lot and anchor them with steel rods. Five board members took old telephone poles from Park Lot E and placed them across Park Lot Q. They were anchored to the ground with steel rods. This solved the parking problem.
11. The cost of lawn maintenance at the beach was reviewed, \$68/\$1,500 annually.
12. 2023, 4th of July events included:
 - Boat Parade: first place-St Pierre Family "Viking Ship," 2nd Place-McKissen Family "Christmas in July, and 3rd Place-Wendt Family "Little Mermaid"
 - Bike and Golf Cart Parade: 26 Bikers and forty-five golf carts participated in the parade.
13. The last concert of the summer was held a week later than the scheduled August 31 date due to rain. Quinn Minard and his band did an outstanding job entering the community. There was good attendance, on land and in the water. The event was filled with laughter and dancing.
14. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:
 - Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs.
 - Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover.
 - Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.

➤ **SEPTEMBER 2023:**

1. The Board approved \$1,200 for the removal of a large weeping willow tree on Park Lot B that was damaged in a storm and deemed hazardous. A date for removal was not given.

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2. Storm water run-off from the Lakeshore Road is having a negative impact on Park Lot C. Working to correct this issue.
3. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:
 - o Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs.
 - o Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover.
 - o Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.
4. Thompsons filed a second lawsuit against Barnes Lake Club.
5. Club Membership is at 231
6. Discussion took place about dog waste in Park Lots, no decision was made on how to solve this issue.
7. The concern over safety with Float Planes landing on the lake took place. A review of options was discussed, it was determined that we do not have the means to stop planes from landing on the lake.
8. September 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, cash flow amount \$ 15,413.77
9. 2023 Barnes Lake Golf Scramble took place September 9th. They reached the maximum team limit of twenty-two teams. They raised close to \$4000. This was Sam Bonners first time organizing this event. She did a wonderful job and had many volunteers help her. This event is not a Barnes Lake Club event. But each year Monies raised from this event our given to the Barnes Lake Club.
10. Boy Scouts: Their new season started on September 6th. No activities are scheduled in September.
11. Park Lots U and O have new docks. There are now eleven dock locations available in Park Lots. There are a total of seventy-nine docks at Park Lots.

➤ **OCTOBER 2023:**

1. Beach and channel buoys were removed from the water.
2. Tarps were installed and removed from the pavilion, as needed for the Halloween Party

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3. Boy Scouts reported that they hosted a Handicap camp outing October 24 and 25th. This event turned out great. They also had a Biking activity at Richfield Park. Everyone who attended had an enjoyable time.
4. Barnes Lake Club Membership is 234.
5. The fish stocking permit was received. This is a lengthy process that takes a couple of months to complete.
6. Storm water run-off from the Lakeshore Road is having a negative impact on Park Lot C. Working to correct this issue.
7. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:
 - Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs.
 - Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover.
 - Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.
8. October 1 through October 31, 2023, cash flow amount is \$ 14,811.58
9. The Halloween Party was held on October 14th. We had severe weather most of the day, but it cleared up in time for a great Halloween party. we had a large turnout. Our amazing volunteers included Mike & Sandy Herweyer, Katie Incarnati, and Cece Stramsak.
10. The fishing contest ended October 31. Please see who won on our website. This information was also provided in our 2023 Fall Observer.
11. A Barnes Lake Club Mailing and Observer Schedule was created. This will allow for a consistent communication process with the community.
12. Second Lawsuit filed by Thompsons ended October 31, with the verdict in our favor. No money changed hands. We did not get reimbursed for our attorney cost of \$ 3,000.00. The document from the Courts was placed on our website and recorded at the Register of Deeds.

➤ **NOVEMBER 2023:**

1. Storm water run-off from the Lakeshore Road is having a negative impact on Park Lot C. Working to correct this issue.

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2. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:
 - Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs. On November 13, Deerfield accepted and approved a contractor to build new steps.
 - Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover.
 - Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.
3. Fish order was placed. On November 9th ,925 Walleye was placed in the lake. The original order/plan was to place 1300 perch and two hundred walleyes, but the hatchery made a mistake that killed all their perch. The DNR was contacted approving the change to 925 walleyes.
4. Swings and pumps were removed from the beach for the winter.
5. All the boats were off the Park Lot docks.
6. Boy Scouts: They have been engaged in many fun fall activities. Approval was made for a Scout to go ahead with his Eagle project. He will be collecting sleeping bags, pillows, and tents for the homeless. The Boy Scouts also put the tables under the pavilion for the winter months.
7. Barnes Lake Improvement Board approved \$1,600 for the purchase of new beach buoys.
8. Power to the boat launch and beach access gate was turned off for the winter months.
9. November 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, Cash Flow Balance is \$12,908.86
10. Barnes Lake Club Members is 234.
11. Discuss the By-Laws, work on them over the winter, and review prior to presenting to the members at the annual meeting.

➤ **December 2023, January 2024, February 2024, and March 2024:**

1. 2023 Winter Holiday Décor Contest had a lot of participation. However, several coolly decorated homes could not win the prizes offered because they were not Barnes Lake Club Members. Join the club, become part of the support team. The eight (8) winners are Matthew & Stacy Staples, Kyle & Taylor Keeling, Robert & Sherry Osborne, Matt & Sherry Osborne, Matt & Chelsie Thomas, Richard & Carol Parker, Gary Macha, Bernice Conrad, and Chuck & Pam Reid. All had great decorations and holiday spirit.

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2. January: All the Directory letters, Barnes Lake Club Membership application, Barnes Lake Flyer were all updated.
3. Cece worked throughout the winter in organizing membership information and the new Directory information.
4. February: Send directory advertisement letters out to businesses.
5. March 30th, mailing went out to all property owners. This mailing includes Barnes Lake Club membership form, telephone directory information, 2024 calendar, Barnes Lake Club Flyer, information on the June garage sale, etc.
6. Barnes Lake had ice for one month, during this time ten trespassers were removed from the lake.
7. Respond to questions asked through emails, telephone calls and texts.
8. Update the By-Laws.
9. Electricity was turned on at the boat launch and at the beach for the summer
10. March: Barnes Lake Improvement Board approved purchasing a new gate opening unit after ours failed to work when power was turned on this year. It was determined that the entire unit needed to be replaced at a cost of \$6,500. The old unit was 30+ years. Oxford Overhead Door was contacted to install the new unit. The bugs did not get worked out until July. Alex worked on solving these issues from start to finish. He put in a huge amount of time dealing with contractors, troubleshooting, opening, and closing the gate, etc.

➤ **APRIL 2024:**

1. Goose Round-up permits are normally issued at this time. However, due to the Bird Flu EGLE did not issue permits this year. Goose Round-up did not take place in May. We did receive a permit to remove eggs in June. Tom and Laurie Petts run this program each year. These two do an outstanding job in getting volunteers, working with EGLE on obtaining the needed permits, and supervising the entire process.
2. Picnic tables were moved back out to the yard, swings were put back on the swing set, pump was placed outside, beach items were set out at the beach, beach and channel buoys were placed in the water.
3. The Weeping Willow tree on "B" lot was cut down and cleaned up in one day. The diameter of this tree measures 18'. Funding for removal was approved in 2023.
4. Continue to work on Membership information and directory information.

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➤ **MAY 2024:**

1. New Buoys were put together and installed at the beach and the pump was put back outside.
2. Goose eggs were collected, but the number of eggs removed was not reported to us this year. Once again, we could not remove geese from our lake due to the Bird Flu, EGLE did not issue permits.
3. Discussion took place on the need for building maintenance for the Club house. Alex is to work up a list of repairs needed with a cost for a discussion in the fall.
4. The first coffee Hour of the season was a little wet, but Tom and Laurie had a good turnout!
5. Discuss By-Law Updates
6. Continue to update membership and directory information.
7. Storm water run-off from the Lakeshore Road is having a negative impact on Park Lot C. Working to correct this issue.
8. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:
 - Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs. Steps are not installed to date.
 - Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover.
 - Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.

➤ **June 2024:**

1. Brian Menard installed garage sale signs at 8 locations around the lake and on M-24 and Barnes Lake Road. He also placed an ad in the County Press and LA View. Last year we had thirty-six homes that participated. This year we had twenty-six homes. We had a good turnout...Thanks everyone!
2. Storm water run-off from the Lakeshore Road is having a negative impact on Park Lot C. Working to correct this issue.
3. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:

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- Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs. Steps are not installed to date.
 - Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover.
 - Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.
4. June 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, cash flow balance is \$ 18,559.52
5. Barnes Lake Membership is 196.
6. Take Directory information to printer.
7. The band AM Radio performed for our Concert at the Beach held on June 15th. The feedback was really good. They sound great!
8. Work is being done on Park Lot P to stop the erosion of a retaining wall. This work should be completed by the end of July.
9. Nine boat dock locations are available within Park Lots.
10. Boy Scouts will be attending eagle camp in July.

➤ **July 2024:**

1. Storm water run-off from the Lakeshore Road is having a negative impact on Park Lot C. Working to correct this issue. *Attended a Road Commission Meeting with a written document and pictures in regards our roads' current condition and Park Lot C. New material, grading and brine were added in an effort to correct the problem. On July 10th we had a large rain event, which put the work done to the test. It failed; we still had a large amount of road run-off entering the lake. We will keep working with the Road Commission to solve this ongoing issue.*
2. Lapeer County Road Commission Lakeshore/Hillside Project the issues with this project had not been resolved. Communication continued through emails, telephone calls and texting. Ongoing issues include, but are not limited to:
- Construction of step to the lake. This is required because the existing steps were removed, and the slop was changed during the reconstruction of the road without the Clubs permission. The township has agreed to install a new set of stairs. *Steps are scheduled to be installed around July 18th.*
 - ~~Replacement of a steel grate with a beehive cover. Completed~~
 - ~~Storm water run-off from the road running into multiple properties, including Park Lot E.~~

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3. A beach concert is scheduled for July 20th. Derek Morey is looking for a new band for this event.
4. Directory proof was reviewed twice. All items were corrected and are now in the process of being printed.
5. The 2024 July 4th fireworks were outstanding. Michigan Family Fireworks has put on a firework show for four years. Our budget of \$6,000.00 for fireworks. This year we were able to at an additional \$ 2,500 for a total of \$8,500 going towards the fireworks display. Being able to add additional funds is due the amount of donations received for fireworks this year.
6. Discuss By-Laws
7. Barnes Lake Members is 214
8. Review schedule and events for the 4th of July.

➤ **ITEMS COMPLETED BY THE BARNES LAKE CLUB DAILY, MONTHLY AND ANNUALLY, INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Surveillance systems at the beach and boat launch are monitored daily.
2. Park Lots are monitored for damage, garbage, and trespassing.
3. Boat launch gate and surrounding gate maintained and repaired if damaged.
4. Maintain Port-a-John and ensure that it is clean.
5. Finance Audit
6. Renew our Non-profit Corporation with the State of Michigan.
7. Beach area grass cut, building maintenance completed, garbage picked up, area cleaned and monitored.
8. Beach and Park Lot expenses are paid to cover the following cost, but not limited to: Electrical, interned service, gate controls, Port-a-John dumping, fees from the State of Michigan, Insurance costs, and maintenance materials costs.
9. Other costs incurred include, but are not limited to: Printing, materials and supplies needed for events, fireworks, and entertainment.

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10. No Parking notifications placed on vehicles parked on Park Lots, parking on a Park Lots with a vehicle is prohibited.
11. Monthly Barnes Lake Club meetings
12. Barnes Lake Club Finance, Cece Stramsak
13. Barnes Lake Club website maintenance and updates, Shanna Mills
14. Boat dock registrations
15. Respond to emails, text, and telephone calls.

Barnes Lake Club Membership

YEAR	TOTAL MEMBERS
2024-2023	234
2023-2022	220
2022-2021	246
2021-2020	224
2020-2019	210
2019-2018	243
2018-2017	231

We encourage more of you to join the Barnes Lake Club for the minimal cost of \$ 75, or \$ 80, if using PayPal. Membership fees are used to keep Beautiful Barnes Lake “Private and Secure.” As Member, please help in getting new members! Thank you!

The Barnes Lake Club developed a Park Lot Boat Dock Registration Program that has been in place as of 2018. This program has eliminated boats being cut loose from docks, improved the appearance of Park Lots with dock improvements, and removed twenty-four boats and owners from the lake who did not live in any of the Deerfield Parks. Park Lot Rules can be found on our website, <https://barneslakeclub.com>.

To sustain a healthy fish population, certain rules and regulations are in place to improve the recreational value of our lake. Additionally, these rules help to remove people from our lake who do not live within the Deerfield Park Subdivision.

The State of Michigan fishing regulations apply to Barnes Lake. An example of these regulations are as follows; you shall have a State of Michigan fishing license; abide by the seasonal size limits when fishing; tip-ups are to be attended, etc. Fishing Rules can be found on our website and the State of Michigan Website, <https://barneslakeclub.com> and <https://www.michigan.gov>

Roadways

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The roads through Deerfield Park Subdivisions are public. They are maintained by the Lapeer County Road Commission and patrolled by the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department. All Michigan Laws pertaining to use of roadways applies. Reference Michigan Vehicle Code, Act 300 of 1949 for detailed information. Remember the use of golf carts is a privilege that can be taken away from the Barnes Lake Community if abused.

Golf cart drivers shall be 16 years of age or older; golf carts shall be operated at a speed not to exceed 15 mph; and shall not be driven on state trunkline (M-24 and M-90) Listed are only a few items identified within the Michigan Vehicle Code. We ask you to think of the safety of loved ones and be respectful of the community.

Beach Area

The beach and swimming area are located at the end of Peninsula Drive next to the boat launch. There are picnic tables, a pavilion, swing set and Port-a-John. This area is maintained by the Barnes Lake Club and is open to all property owners and renters. The Clubhouse is also owned and maintained by the Barnes Lake Club and Members. This facility is used for Barnes Lake Club events and meetings. The outside electrical outlets are turned off. Barnes Lake Club Members can request to have the electrical outlets turned on for an outside event. In 2022, a key card reader was installed on the beach gate. This was done to prevent people who do not own or live on the lake from entering the beach area. Over the years this has become a huge problem. Key cards cost \$5.00, if a card is lost the replacement card is \$50.00. The beach key card also opens the boat launch gate.

Boat Launch

The boat launch is located at the end of Peninsula Drive. A Key card is required to operate the gate. A key card is available to all property owners; renters must have a letter from the property owner to obtain a key card. Only one key card is issued per home. Key cards cost \$5.00, if a card is lost the replacement card is \$50.00. The beach key card also opens the boat launch gate.

The gate is to limit access to our lake, only to the property owners and their guests. Property owners are responsible for the conduct of their guests on the lake. This is a private lake and to keep it safe please limit the number of guests you allow. Any boats or other watercraft should be washed and drained if used on any other waterways prior to placing it in Barnes Lake to stop invasives species from entering our lake.

Lake Use and Select Boating Laws

Barnes Lake is an all-sports environment. An "Agreement" has been in effect for many years and brought peace between the power boaters and anglers/women. The hours between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00a.m. are deemed a "NO WAKE" period to allow a peaceful time for fishing. The hours between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00p.m. are open for boaters and other watercraft. Of course, all boats and fishing are allowed on the lake during all hours; just keep in mind the speed needs to be at no wake levels at times and the water may be a little rough for fishing.

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Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Lapeer County Sheriff's Department, and Marine Division have access to the lake at any time. All these agencies have the power to issue tickets for violations of boating laws. The Lapeer County Sheriff's Department will also respond to calls regarding occurring violations on the lake.

The "select boating laws" are abstracted from the Michigan Boating Guide, as published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The laws selected are those most violated on our lake. Complete boating laws and responsibilities are available from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources on their website: www.michigan.gov/recreationsafety

Direction of Traffic

All watercrafts shall travel in a counterclockwise direction.

Riding on the Bow

Riding on the bow is illegal if the vessel is not equipped with bow seating and the vessel is operation at greater than slow, no-wake speed.

Slow-No-Wake

Michigan Natural Resources defines this as the slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and does not create a wake. The "north" and "south" channels of Barnes Lake are no-wake zones and are so marked.

Reckless Boat Operations

Reckless operation of a vessel of reckless manipulation of water skis, a surfboard or similar device is defined as that which disregards the safety or rights of others or endangers the person or property of others. Some examples are:

- Weaving your vessel through congested waterway traffic or swerving at the last possible moment to avoid collisions.
- Jumping the wake of another vessel unnecessarily close to the other vessel or when visibility around the other vessel is restricted.
- Chasing, harassing, or disturbing wildlife with your vessel
- Causing damage from the wake of your vessel.

Failure to Regulate Speed

Operating a vessel at speeds that may cause danger to the life or property of any other person or at speeds that will not permit you to bring your vessel to a stage stop. It is illegal to operate a vessel faster than is responsible and prudent under the conditions (weather, vessel traffic, etc.)

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Improper Distance

Not maintaining proper distance while operating a vessel or towing a person.

Who May Operate a Watercraft

- **Those less than 12 years** of age may operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than six horsepower (hp) legally without restrictions.
- **Those less than 12 years** of age may operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp legally only if they have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board the boat and are directly supervised on board by a person at least 16 years of age and have been issued a boating safety certificate.
- **Those less than 12 years** of age may not operate a boat powered by a motor of more than thirty-five hp legally under any conditions.
- **Those born on or after July 1, 1996**, may not operate a motorboat that is powered by a motor or motors totaling more than six hp on the water of this state unless the person has been issued a boating safety certification.
- **Those born before July 1, 1996**, may operate a boat legally with restrictions.

Registering Your Vessel

- You must have a Michigan Certification Number(registration) and validation decals to operate your vessel legally on all waters in Michigan.

Common Sense on the Water

- Avoid swimming in the boating traffic areas. Example: swim from the beach to the Lady Liberty
- Avoid swimming and fishing in the Willow Point (channel between large lake and small lake) area.
- Avoid swimming to the Lady Liberty without an accompanying boat, paddle board, etc.
- Avoid anchoring in the boating traffic areas.
- Avoid creating a wake through the channel at Willow Point.
- Avoid placing docks, rafts, etc. in boat traffic areas.
- Respect others in keeping music volume at a respectable level.
- Be respectful and safe!

We are sad to report there have been six drownings throughout the years on Barnes Lake. Please be careful and keep your eyes open.