

Murray Lake Association Monthly Newsletter

The Murray Lake Association was founded to develop civic and community interest among owners and residents around our lake. The board represents the MLA Members.

Issue: September 2025

Message from the President

Fall is the season of cooler weather and brilliant-colored trees as we transition from summer. As the weather changes so has your MLA Board. **We want to thank Kathy Thebo for her service as our treasurer, but like the changes in our weather life has changed for Kathy and she moved off the lake.** We wish her well with her new ventures! We are pleased to **announce Kimberly Burke will be taking on the treasurer duties.** Kimberly and her husband Charles are newer Murray Lakers and live on Lally St. We look forward to Kimberly bringing her talents to our board!

Don't think your Association takes the fall off, we have several activities planned to keep us all active and connected! **The Kistler's Murray Lake Golf Outing is coming up on Sep 20th.** We have our first ever **fall color paddle coming upon Oct 11th** and we had so much fun last year with our **Oktoberfest we are repeating it again on Oct 23rd.** We ask for reservations to make sure we are adequately prepared but they are not required. There is more information on these and other activities in this newsletter.

Enjoy these waning warm days on the lake as we prepare for fall!

Upcoming Events

Date/Time	Event	Location
Sep 20th 9am-5pm	Golf Outing	The Links at Bowen Lake
Oct 11th 12-2pm	Fall Color Paddle	Around Murray Lake
Oct 23rd 5-10pm	Oktoberfest	Smyrna Bar
Oct 31st	Halloween Trick or Treating	Murray Lake neighborhoods
Jan 24th	Soup/Chili Cook-off	Sam and Nikki Paxson's
Feb 2026	Ice Fishing Contest	On the lake (TBD)

General Reminders

Please help keep debris from washing down storm drains as each of the drains go directly into the lake. Try to clear the drains and area around them before the next big rain.

Contact the MLA Board

Email: murraylakeboard@gmail.com

Website: <https://murraylakeassociation.com/>

Highlights from August

The first annual flotilla event was a success! With the help of Sam Paxson and his dinghy crew, we **had more than 20 boats tied up to enjoy food, music, and good company.**

Thanks to Terry for volunteering the use of his beach to make this event a success and to Sam for keeping the hot dogs coming for anyone who wanted one! It was not the warmest of August days, especially with the wind, but many enjoyed a float in the water while listening to the music from Denny Middleton.

Thank you to all who attended! If you have any suggestions to improve this event for next year, please reach out to the MLA Board.

Lake Updates and Information

It has been a wonderful summer for boating! Our lake's warm temperature has made for some great times in the water. However, the lack of rain has caused our lake to drop to record levels. **The lake is now almost 13 inches below our spring level!** Docks have had to be extended and lifts moved to deeper water to compensate. **The water temperature is cooling off for Sep, now at 66 degrees, so it's not so comfortable!** It does not look like any significant rain soon, so expect to see the lake drop even further before boats, docks, and lifts come out for the season.

Tom Donaldson and Mark Bradburn **continue to monitor the lake to record clarity, dissolved oxygen, water temperatures at different levels, phosphorus and chlorophyll levels.** This tracking allows us to see if there are changes and what can be done to keep our lake as healthy as possible.

Education Opportunities:

Learn how you can **help protect our lake through the use of natural shorelines.** An introductory guide to techniques is available in this [digital booklet](#).

Join the 2025 Shoreline and Shallows Conference on Oct 17th in East Lansing to **learn about "Restoring Resiliency to Shorelines"**. Dive into the wonders of shorelines and explore innovative strategies for preserving these critical inland lake habitats. [Register here](#).

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Kistler's Golf Outing

The annual golf outing is fast approaching! We will be teaming up to take on our neighboring Big Crooked Lake in a scramble format competition!

The event is **Saturday, September 20th, with a shotgun start at 9am at The Links at Bowen Lake**. The team scores from the top 5 to 6 teams from each Lake will be used for the competition and the rights to the coveted trophy....bragging rights!

There will also be skins, 50/50 raffle, and prizes for closest to pin, closest to string, longest putt, etc, as well as raffle prizes.

Ocktoberfest

Ocktoberfest is here again! Join us for this great event hosted by the Murray Lake Association at the **Smyrna Bar and Restaurant on Thursday, October 23rd, from 5pm-10pm**. A special menu will be available for this event, food and drink at your own expense. **Enjoy live entertainment from 6pm-8pm.**

Please **RSVP to Terry at tbc8721@yahoo.com by Oct 9th** if you would like to attend!

Fall Color Paddle

Come join us on your kayak, canoe, or paddle board to enjoy the beautiful fall colors around the lake on **Saturday, October 11th**. The paddle will officially **start at the southeast end of the lake at 12pm and travel north**, but feel free to simply join as the group passes by your house. We will stop for a break and **enjoy donuts and cider refreshments at the community park on Murray View**.

If the weather on Saturday does not cooperate, we will plan to move the paddle to Sunday, October 12th.

Halloween

Spooky season is quickly approaching and the MLA is getting excited for another Halloween of trick-or-treating around Murray Lake! The board is planning to provide trick-or-treating bags to kids with some fun goodies included for those walking around the Causeway.

The board is considering adding a Trunk-or-Treat location at the public access on Halloween for those in the community who wish they had more trick-or-treaters. **Look out for a poll on the Facebook page to gauge interest or email the board!**

Photos of the Month



Pictures from the flotilla event on August 23rd!

Many boats came and tied up to enjoy the music and warm hot dogs prepared by Sam and his crew!

Terry and Neal delivered our donation of \$150 to the Murray Lake Elementary Family Links from the Poker Run proceeds.

