

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: June 2026

Message from the President

Summer is officially underway, and what a great start we've had! The Kids' Fishing Derby kicked things off with some impressive bass catches and plenty of smiles. A huge thank-you to Pam and Charles Schlosser for coordinating the event—your time and effort make traditions like this possible.

Our lake community thrives because so many of you step up to help. Whether you organize an event, volunteer behind the scenes, or simply show up to support your neighbors, you make this place special.

With the 4th of July just around the corner, we're gearing up for another memorable celebration. The kids' parade, the boat parade, and—returning for our 250th anniversary—FIREWORKS will all be part of the fun. A big thank-you to Shane Risner for making the fireworks display a reality.

For those who don't know me, I'm relatively new to the lake. My wife, Nancy, and I moved here in the fall of 2021. We both grew up in Michigan and then spent 35 years moving through five Midwest states during my career in the food industry. We feel incredibly fortunate to have landed on Murray Lake and to be part of such a welcoming and engaged community. We've enjoyed getting involved in the wide range of activities the association provides. I'm excited to see you and your families out on the water throughout the summer. Here's to a safe, fun, and community-filled season on the lake!

Highlights from May-June

The annual garage sale days took place on June 5th and 6th with lots of participation around the lake! The rain put a little damper on visiting the sales, but there was good turnout across the 2 days.

The 2nd annual kid's fishing derby was a great success with winners across 2 age groups for both the number of fish caught and the biggest fish caught! We hope to keep this event going next year. If you have any interest in volunteering to help coordinate, please reach out to Neal Simon (612-963-3111)!

Lake Updates and Information

Lake Info:

For awareness, PLM is scheduled to treat the lake residents who contract with them on July 20th. Signs should be posted on neighboring lots with guidance on water usage after treatment.

Education Opportunities:

MDHHS is reminding residents to avoid foam on rivers, lakes, and streams as it can contain harmful substances including PFAS. More info is available here ([link](#)).

The MiCorps AIS Detection Blitz is a statewide community science event aimed at identifying and documenting aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, or anything else you suspect may be invasive. Between June 29 and July 12, 2026, simply snap photos of potential invasive species and upload them to the MiCorps project on the free iNaturalist app ([link](#)).

Upcoming Events

Date/Time	Event	Location
July 4th	4th of July Events!	Around the Lake
Aug 1st	Poker Run	Around the Lake
Aug 29th	Flotilla	SW end of the lake
Sep 19th	Kistler Golf Outing	The Links @ Bowen Lake
Oct	Fall Color Paddle	Around the Lake

Contact the MLA Board

Email: murraylakeboard@gmail.com

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

General Reminders

Help keep our sewer system in good working order by ensuring that only human waste and toilet paper are flushed down the toilet. In the case of a power outage, avoid significant water usage with your generators as the lift stations are not operable during an outage.

REQUEST: We are looking for a volunteer to mow the grass around the sewer pump station on Causeway. Thank you to the community members who have supported this work in the past. Please reach out to Alan Rumbaugh (616-915-8597)

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4th of July

4th of July events will kick off with the **kid's parade around Causeway at 11am on Sat, July 4th**. Please line up at the Y at 10:45am. The ice cream truck will travel around the lake after the parade. Tickets for the ice cream truck will be available for association members. **Tickets can be picked up at the Y on Jul 4th from 10:30-11:30am. Or from Jun 29-Jul 3, you can pick them up at Tonja Bogema's (4287 Causeway) or Neal Simon's (11457 Lally).**

We are encouraging everyone to decorate your boats with lights and **travel around the lake starting at 9pm for a light-up boat parade** prior to the fireworks show!

Fireworks will be launched after sunset on the east side of the lake. Donations are still being accepted to support the fireworks show, **contact Shane Risner shane.risner@gmail.com or donate via venmo (@Shane-Risner-1), [gofundme](https://www.gofundme.com), or simply mail a check (call 616-897-1080 for address).** Any funds received that are not used for this year's show will be saved for the fireworks in 2027.

Flotilla

The **2nd annual flotilla event is planned for Sat, Aug 29th** at the southwest end of the lake near the marina. There will be music and snacks to enjoy with your neighbors as you link up with other boats for this event! More details to come in the next newsletter.

Poker Run

2026 Annual Poker Run will be **Saturday, August 1st**. Each host site will offer up a fun game for all participants with the final poker game played at the Brenk's. **We are still looking for 4-6 host sites for this year's event, if interested, please contact Neal Simon (612-963-3111).**

MLA members will play one hand for free, non-members will pay a \$30 entry fee per poker hand. There will be winners for best hand, 2nd best hand, and worst hand. In addition to the poker game, you can play your chance at winning goodie baskets!

This event will be a fundraiser for the MLA and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Grattan Fire Department.

Kistler Golf Outing

The Kistler's are hosting a **golf outing again on Sep 19th against our neighbors from Crooked Lake**. Last year, Crooked Lake took the crown, but Murray Lake is coming back hungry and ready to reclaim what's theirs! More details will be coming on how to sign up, but mark your calendars.

Photos of the Month



The winners of the 2nd Annual kid's fishing derby on June 13th! A huge thank you to Charley and Pam Schlosser for organizing the event and to the sponsors "Hill Top Sports, Fish & Finn, Murray Lake Marina, Fish & Chicken Express & Always Fresh Design"