

# 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: Aug 2026

## Message from the President

We wrapped up an exciting July with a fantastic Poker Run, and now we're looking forward to the Flotilla! Join your neighbors for another beautiful day on the lake filled with sunshine, music, food, friends, and fun. It doesn't get much better than that!

I'd also like to recognize a few talented board members who help keep our community connected and informed. This newsletter is made possible by Samantha McNaughton, and our MLA website is maintained by Stephanie Underwood. We are fortunate to have dedicated and skilled volunteers who contribute so much to Murray Lake.

Although August isn't over, we're already planning ahead. Please take a few minutes to complete our Euchre Tournament Survey on Facebook. Your feedback helps us understand what events and activities are most important to our members as we continue to introduce new ideas and experiences.

While we will not be holding Oktoberfest this year, we have another great event planned. Mark your calendars for November 7 and join us for a Chili Cook-Off during the Michigan vs. Michigan State football game. Expect great chili, friendly competition, and a fun afternoon with neighbors. We hope to see you there!

## Upcoming Events

| Date/Time             | Event                      | Location                     |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Aug 29th<br>1-4pm     | Flotilla                   | SW end of the lake           |
| Sep 19th, 9am         | Crooked Murray Golf Outing | The Links @ Bowen Lake       |
| Oct 17th<br>10am-12pm | Fall Color Paddle          | Around the Lake              |
| Oct 31st              | Halloween Trick-or-Treat   | Murray Lake Neighborhoods    |
| Nov 7th               | Chili Cook-Off             | Sam and Nikki Paxson's House |

## Contact the MLA Board

Email: [murraylakeboard@gmail.com](mailto:murraylakeboard@gmail.com)

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

## Highlights from Jul-Aug

The 2026 Murray Lake Poker Run and Raffle was a success!! Another hand well played even if it was delayed a day. We had close to 60 groups play their hand at poker, stuff their pants, try an obstacle course and cool off with a plunge.

This event continues to bring Murray Lake residents together for an afternoon of fun and winnings. Folks left with big winnings in poker hands and others left with baskets of goodies and gift certificates. As in many fun events, it takes many volunteers to make it happen. THANK YOU to all you helped and participated!

## Lake Updates and Information

### Lake Info:

The lake level has dropped about 5 inches since spring, back up a bit with the recent rain we have had! The lake temperature is currently a lovely 83°F, perfect for swimming.

### Education Opportunities:

MSU is offering a course on introduction to lakes to gain knowledge on lake ecology, watersheds, shorelines, aquatic plant management, and Michigan water law. Registration for Jan 2027 course to open soon! ([link](#))

Lots of online learning opportunities through the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership. Check out listings for all the upcoming events including seminars on invasive species and microplastics in our water. Details available here ([link](#)).

## General Reminders

**REQUEST:** The MLA Board is hoping to host a euchre tournament in Feb/Mar. Please complete the poll on the Facebook page to help gauge interest!

**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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## Flotilla

The **2nd annual flotilla event is planned for Sat, Aug 29th, from 1-4pm** at the southwest end of the lake near the marina. There will be **live music from 1-3pm** and hot dogs and chips to enjoy with your neighbors as you link up with other boats for this event!

Please come to the event with anchors, bumpers, and dock lines ready to set your boat in place and connect to the other boats lined up. There will be space to float in the water during the event!

## Crooked Murray 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! The event will be at The Links at Bowen Lake, with a 9am shotgun start. Cost is \$80/person and **registration ends Sep 1st**. Text or email Nancy to secure your team's spot: (312) 961-3484 or [nancy.kistler00@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.kistler00@gmail.com).

## Fall Color Paddle

The fall color paddle event is coming back for the 2nd year! The event is planned for **Sat, Oct 17th from 10am -12pm** with a rain date of Sun, Oct 18th. Come out with your kayak, canoe, or paddle board and enjoy the fall colors as we paddle around the lake before enjoying donuts and cider with your neighbors.

## Halloween

Spooky season is around the corner and the MLA is getting excited for another Halloween of trick-or-treating around Murray Lake! The board will be providing goodie bags with some fun non-food items for all kids walking around the Cause way. A table will be set up at the Y to grab a goodie bag and a glowstick!

## Photos of the Month - Poker Run!

