



Lake Lansing Special Assessment District Advisory Committee Newsletter

Spring 2023

Lake Lansing Special Assessment District Advisory Committee

c/o Meridian Charter Township
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

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Ron Rowe
Tier 1

Roger Taylor
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Charter Township of Meridian

Coe Emens
Lake Lansing County Park Supervisor

Paul Pratt
Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office

For the latest updates, be sure to check meridian.mi.us/government/boards-and-commissions/lake-lansing-advisory-committee

Environmental Consultant
Progressive AE

Lake Lansing's Fishery

The type and abundance of fish a lake supports can be influenced by several factors such as temperature, dissolved oxygen, depth, and the aquatic plant life community. Fish can be categorized as warmwater, coolwater, or coldwater species depending on their summer temperature preferences (Figure 1). Deep lakes will form temperature layers during the summer months known as summer stratification. Coldwater fisheries are typically deep lakes that have cold and well oxygenated bottom waters providing a summer refuge for cold- and coolwater fish species. Because Lake Lansing has oxygen depletion in the cool

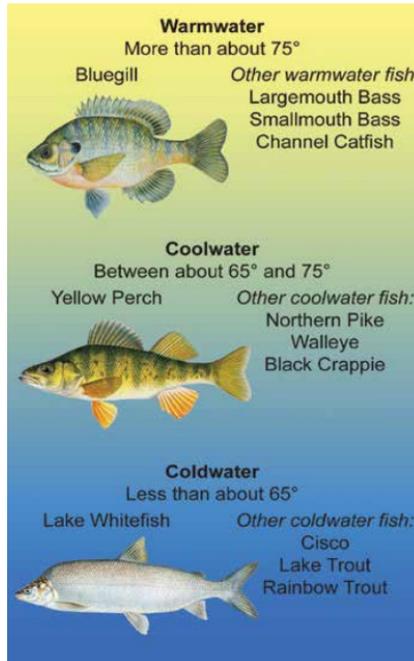


Figure 1. Cold-, cool-, and warmwater temperature ranges and examples of fish species that prefer each range. Fish illustrations Joseph R. Tomelleri (19537)

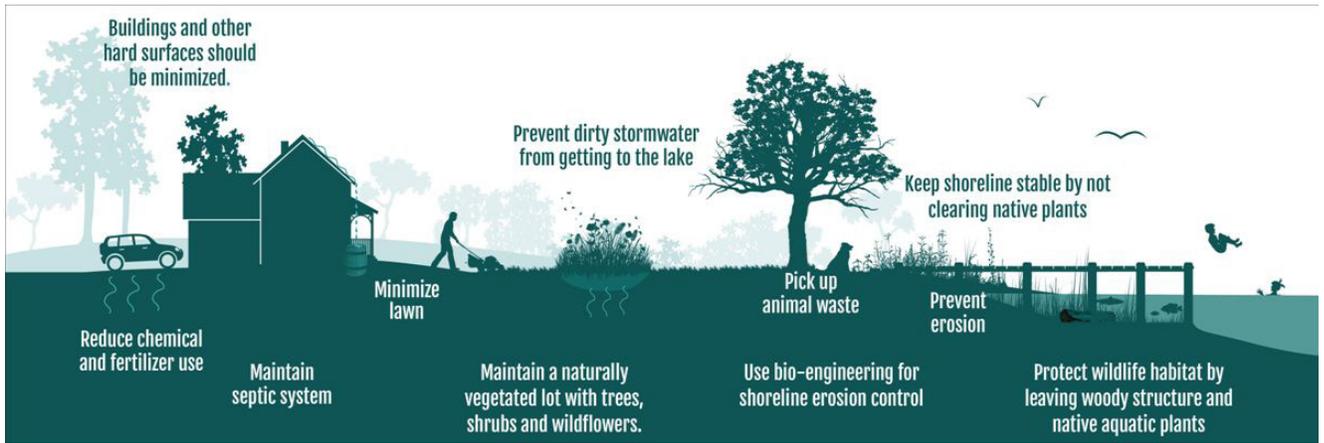
bottom waters during summer it would be classified as a warmwater fishery. The lake contains warmwater species such as bluegill, pumpkinseed, large mouth bass, and crappie. The lake is relatively shallow and oxygen depletes with depth. Some coolwater species have been caught in Lake Lansing such as yellow perch and northern pike. Lake Lansing has summer bottom waters that are cold enough to support cold- and coolwater species, however, the bottom water lacks sufficient oxygen. While water temperature and dissolved oxygen determine what fish species can live in a lake, aquatic plants are important in maintaining a healthy fishery. Aquatic plants provide food, habitat, and cover for fish. An over abundance of aquatic plants can have a negative impact on fish growth and spawning. Aquatic invasive species are known to grow at nuisance levels and dominate ecosystems. An aquatic plant management program helps to control invasive and nuisance plant growth, which in turn, can help to maintain a healthy fishery. Currently, Lake Lansing has an established aquatic plant control program to target invasive species such as Eurasian milfoil and starry stonewort.



Eurasian milfoil



Starry stonewort



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Lake Lansing Natural Shoreline Demonstration Project

The Charter Township of Meridian is pursuing a shoreline restoration project in Lake Lansing Park South. This demonstration project will restore the proposed developed shoreline to a natural state. The goal of the project is to educate residents on maintaining a natural shoreline to better protect Lake Lansing and create a healthier natural environment. The demonstration project will allow residents to see an example natural shoreline restoration project. Natural shorelines are beneficial in reducing nutrient runoff, limiting shoreline erosion and promoting habitat for various species of fish and animal life. Private shoreline restoration projects are strongly encouraged. For more information, please visit mishorelinepartnership.org.

Lake Lansing Plant Control Program

Lake Lansing's aquatic plant control program is overseen by the Lake Lansing Special Assessment District Advisory Committee and their environmental consultant, Progressive AE. The goal of the program is to prevent the spread of invasive species and maintain a healthy abundance of beneficial native plant species. Aquatic plant control on Lake Lansing involves a combination of selective herbicide applications and mechanical harvesting. In 2022, 140 acres of the lake were treated to control invasive Eurasian milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed growth while 56 acres of stary stonewort and nuisance native plants were harvested. A tentative schedule for plant control efforts on Lake Lansing in 2023 can be found on the right.

For more information regarding lakes, please visit:



LAKE LANSING - 2023 TENTATIVE PLANT CONTROL SCHEDULE

Tentative Survey Date	Tentative Treatment Date	Harvesting	Description
May 8-12	May 22-25	-	Treatment focusing on milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed using systemic herbicides for mifoi, contact herbicides for curly-leaf
June 12-16	June 26-29	June 12-16	Treatment primarily focusing on milfoil. Harvesting of native plants and stary stonewort
July 17-21	July 31 - Aug. 3	-	Treatment primarily focusing on milfoil. Possible treatment of stary stonewort where not harvested
August 21-25	September 4-7	TBD if necessary	Treatment unlikely unless milfoil is an issue. Preferred plant control method at this time would be harvesting.

This schedule is tentative and most likely will vary dependent on weather and contractor schedules.