



Stan Lawrence <stanlawr@gmail.com>

Summer 2026 Update: New Board, Legal Update, Actions Needed

1 message

O.W.L. Organization of Woodland Lake <info@woodlandlake.info>
Reply-To: "O.W.L Organization of Woodland Lake" <info@woodlandlake.info>
To: Stan Lawrence <stanlawr@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 24, 2026 at 1:58 PM

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Dear Woodland Lake Riparians,

ACTION NEEDED BY August 4**Ask EGLE to Deny the Coves Permit as Submitted**

OWL is organizing a letter-writing campaign asking EGLE to deny the permit request for The Cove development as currently proposed. The plan raises serious concerns about wetland disturbance, stormwater runoff, erosion, road salt, nutrient loading and the long-term health of Woodland Lake.

We encourage every resident to submit a letter. To make the process easier, we have provided a list of specific concerns you may choose from to personalize your message, along with a shorter sample letter you may use as a starting point.

[\[View the letter-writing points\]](#) | [\[View the sample letter\]](#)

Submit Feedback Now

Legal Action Update

There were two legal approaches available to challenge the Township's approval of The Cove: an appeal and an original action. OWL initially pursued an appeal, but that case was dismissed. This week, we filed an original action against Brighton Township. Additional legal avenues may still be available; however, because information has been making its way back to the Township, we will not share specific legal strategy publicly at this time. Legal action is costly, and we ask every property owner who has not yet contributed to please submit the requested **\$100 contribution**. We are carefully tracking each donation and sincerely appreciate everyone who has already supported this effort.

If you have not yet contributed, we respectfully ask you to consider a **\$100 donation** to support this effort.

Ways to Contribute

1. Zelle: owl.legal.fund@gmail.com (PNC Bank)
2. PayPal (Tim Happ is our President): paypal.me/OWLLegalFund
3. Check: OWL, PO Box 617, Brighton, MI 48114

Please note that this legal action is separate from the lawsuit that Mitch Harris Building Company brought against Woodland Shore and WLE4 HOA regarding property access/easements.

Preparing for the Next Steps

In the near future, you may receive a letter asking you to make a financial pledge toward this effort. Whether you have already donated or have not yet contributed, we are asking those who may be willing to provide additional support to indicate what they could pledge if needed. We sincerely hope it will not become necessary, but we want to understand the level of support available so we can be prepared for the legal avenues ahead.

It is deeply unfortunate that the Township did not respond to repeated requests for a more responsible development plan. As a result, residents are now helping fund this lawsuit while also bearing, as taxpayers, the Township's added legal costs. More importantly, if this overdevelopment is not prevented, the long-term cost of addressing damage to Woodland Lake could potentially exceed the cost of this lawsuit many times over—possibly by tenfold or more. Our goal is to protect the lake now rather than leave residents with far greater environmental and financial consequences in the future.

Recent Legal Documents

[Recent filing](#)[Summons](#)[Scheduling Order](#)

TimberChar Filter Reminder

TimberChar filters are effective for up to three years, and each property should have up to five installed. If you have not received yours, please reply to this email to arrange a pickup time. When the filters eventually need to be replaced, **please do not throw them away**. The used TimberChar material remains beneficial and can be added to your lawn or garden. If you prefer not to use the contents on your property, reply to this email and a member of the team will arrange to collect your filters at the end of the season.

Annual Meeting Update

The annual meeting was held on May 20, 2026, with President Anita Grapentien presiding. Treasurer Tim Happ presented the proposed 2026–2027 budget, and committee reports were delivered by the Dam, Water Quality, Weed Control, and Communications committees. New business included discussion of a proposed residential development, OWL's efforts to protect the lake, and proposed bylaw updates to meet 501(c)(3) requirements. Summary minutes are available at www.woodlandlake.info.

Thank you to all OWL board members serving for 2026–2027. At the July 13th meeting, we elected our officers:

President: Tim Happ

Vice President: Cheryl Wasilewski

Treasurer: Jim Kahut

Secretary: Katie Tierney

The remaining trustees are Anita Grapentien, Doug Taylor, Bill Loughead, Tim Agnello, Doug Mancini, Stan Lawrence, John Boland and Lorrie Haydon, along with newly elected members Katie Foran, Doug Borlace and Jennifer Marks.

REMINDER: No Dumping at the Dam!!

No grass clippings, no leaves, no garbage. Everything being dumped is impeding proper dam inspection and risks causing damage to the dam.

STAY INVOLVED

Neighborhood Captains Needed!

Neighborhood captains help keep residents informed through a quick phone call or conversation.

- Captains are currently needed for:
 - Woodland Shore Drive — three captains
 - Shelly Drive
 - Pine Ranch Drive
 - Waterfront Drive
 - South Shore/Shoreline
 - The Bluffs

Please reply to this email if you are willing to help.

You may also join our private Facebook group for timely updates and additional information. [Facebook group](#). We can provide quick updates there and give you some instructions.

Thank You

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. The work we are doing together is making a difference—but it requires all of us to stay involved.

Warm regards,

The Organization of Woodland Lake (OWL) Board

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