

Lake Lansing Special Assessment District Advisory Committee Newsletter

Summer 2022

Lake Lansing Special Assessment District Advisory Committee
 c/o Meridian Charter Township
 5151 Marsh Road
 Okemos, MI 48864

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

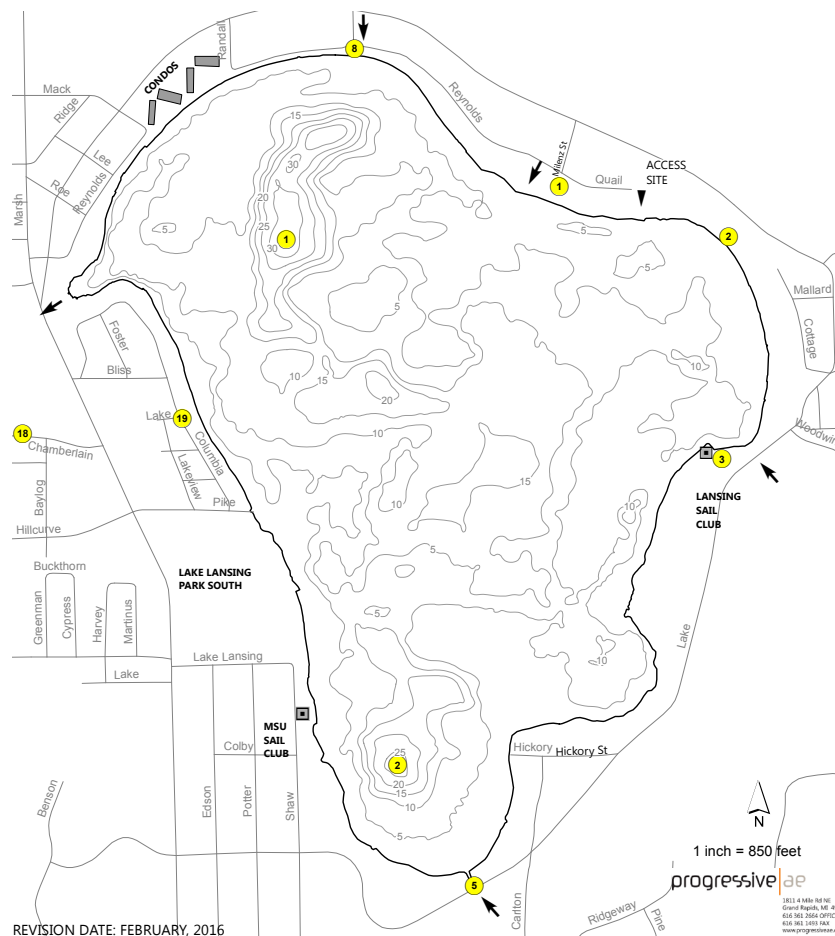
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History of Water Quality Monitoring on Lake Lansing

A Special Assessment District (SAD) for the protection and improvement of Lake Lansing was established in 1998 pursuant to provisions of Public Act 188 of 1954, as amended. In 2002, a management plan was prepared for Lake Lansing and its watershed. Water quality monitoring is a primary component of the plan and is directed by the Lake Lansing SAD Advisory Committee, whose members include representatives of residents within the SAD, Meridian Township, Ingham County Parks, and the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office. You can find the latest updates at meridian.mi.us/government/boards-and-commissions/lake-lansing-advisory-committee.

The two deep basin water quality sampling sites on Lake Lansing (see sampling location map below) have been sampled annually in the spring and late summer since 1999. Stormwater and tributary sampling of inflows to Lake Lansing began in 1999 and was modified in 2004 and 2010. The current seven stormwater outfall/tributary sampling locations are also shown on the map. An excerpt from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Year Two Progress Report for Lake Lansing (circa 1998) explains the importance of continued monitoring: "While Lake Lansing's tributary drains and inlet streams are minor nutrient sources for the lake as a whole, tributaries carrying high pollutant loads can create localized public health, sediment, plant and algae problems where they discharge to the lake. Consequently, it is still appropriate to monitor and manage these inlets and the land they drain."

Future newsletters will address drain improvement projects undertaken by the SAD.



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1 inch = 850 feet
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Lake Lansing - A Brief History

- 1891 First state record - lake referred to as "Pine Lake."
- 1907 Ransom E. Olds was granted full rights to "build, maintain, repair and replace a dam across the outlet of Pine Lake. Subsequently, the lake was raised approximately three feet.
- 1921-1990 Fish stocking records available through Michigan Department of Conservation (now Department of Natural Resources - Fisheries Division) www2.dnr.state.mi.us/fishstock/
- 1922 Lansing State Journal has a July 10 edition regarding the weed problems in Pine Lake - the article describes how area citizens are launching a program to destroy the weeds.
- 2 1930-1940 Fish Creel Census taken. Fish most commonly caught include largemouth bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed, black crappie, perch, northern pike, and bullheads (catfish).
- 1934 Mallmann, W.L., and A. Sypien of Michigan State College (now MSU) studied bacterial indices of natural waters as standards for pollution. Lake Lansing was their primary study site. Their work was published in the American Journal of Public Health.
- 1938 Ball, R.C., et. al., surveyed and mapped the lake, collecting fish and water chemistry data. Lake Lansing was productive and pH values indicated hard water conditions. Game fish collected included grass pickerel, northern pike, perch, largemouth bass, warmouth, bluegill, pumpkinseed, black crappie, and yellow and brown bullhead. Abundant emergent and submersed vegetation was noted during the survey.
- 1957 Department of Conservation conducts a sodium arsenite treatment to control aquatic plants in Lake Lansing. Dr. Eugene Roelofs collected vegetation and fish data during this time to evaluate the effects of the treatment.
- 1959-1963 Several large fish kills (mainly panfish) during this time frame - speculatively attributed to low oxygen levels.
- 1964 Sanitary sewer around Lake Lansing is completed to help eliminate nutrient enrichment by individual septic systems.
- 1978-1983 Approximately 1.6 million cubic yards of soft sediment was dredged from the lake and over 200,000 cubic yards of sand were redistributed. MSU produced several studies during this time frame regarding Lake Lansing and the dredging project.
- 1982 A theoretical nutrient budget and limnological report by C.D. McNabb, et. al. This report studied the causes of algal blooms on the lake and identified rooted plant species including Chara, naiad, water stargrass, wild celery, native and Eurasian milfoil, and curly-leaf pondweed. Report indicated that atmospheric loading was highest source of phosphorus being contributed to the lake.
- 1987 A carp removal program was conducted by the Department of Natural Resources - only 137 carp were removed over a week long period of trapping and netting.
- 1995 Zebra mussels are detected in Lake Lansing. Also that year, an 8 ppb fluridone treatment is conducted to control Eurasian milfoil. Resource managers are concerned that too much vegetation was removed during the treatment.
- 1998 The Lake Lansing Property Owners Association and Meridian Township initiate a five-year comprehensive study of Lake Lansing and its watershed. Progressive AE was hired to implement the study and write the report.