

Watershed News

A publication of the Greater Culver Lake Watershed Conservation Foundation | Spring 2021

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As I enter my second year as president of the GCLWCF, I recognize that the Foundation's work has never been more relevant and important than right now. Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs) have affected many lakes in northern New Jersey including Owassa and Culver. There is much work to be done on helping to mitigate these blooms; storm water runoff improvements have been our main focus of attention to address this problem.

Recently we have been undergoing a vetting process, working closely with the Frankford Township Road Department manager, to choose the optimum storm water inlet protection device(s) which will not only prove effective, but be relatively easy for the Township to maintain and keep clean. The devices can include bags or solid boxes that catch sediment and other materials, including phosphorus, that are swept down the roadways and into a lake during rainfall events. Phosphorus nutrients deposited in lakes are a main contributor to the formation of harmful algae blooms, like those experienced last year. We anticipate many of these devices to be installed in the high volume runoff areas along the Lower North Shore of Culver Lake, by the start of the summer season.

Another ongoing project, the Culver Lake Golf Course acquisition for watershed protection, preservation, and public recreational purposes, is that much closer to becoming a reality. We have secured initial funding from the State of New Jersey Green Acres Fund and Frankford Township. The Sussex County Board of Commissioners is set to approve their contribution for funding this April; the County Open Space Committee has already recommended the contribution. We are also pursuing funding from the William Penn Foundation to close the deal.

With members' donations and continued support, we look forward to carrying on the work necessary in protecting the Northern Paulinskill River Watershed and its fine lakes and tributaries.

Rick Ferruggia, President



UPCOMING EARTH DAY EVENTS

Celebrate Earth Day throughout April by participating in our **Free Lake Storm Water Management and Stewardship Webinar Series.**

In this 3-part series, organized by the SCMUA-Walkkill River Watershed Management Group in partnership with the Greater Culver Lake Watershed Conservation Foundation, you will learn strategies to help keep our lakes and streams clean from pollution. **Each workshop will be held from 4:00-5:00 p.m. on Friday afternoons.**

WEBINAR TOPICS INCLUDE:

4/16/21: Preventing Micro-plastic Pollution

Led by the AmeriCorps NJ Watershed Ambassador for the Walkkill River Watershed

4/23/21: Managing Storm Water with Rain Gardens

Led by the SCMUA-Walkkill River Watershed Management Group

4/30/21: Septic System Maintenance Training

Led by ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions)

TO REGISTER, VISIT: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lake-stormwater-management-and-stewardship-webinar-series-tickets-146622595129>.

SPONSORS:



MEETING ID: 980 0216 0032

PASSWORD: 016020

QUESTIONS? Contact Kristine at krogers@scuma.org



4th Annual Clean Up at the Lakes Day, Saturday April 24th

Join us for the annual Earth Day Clean-Up at the Lakes, sponsored by Frankford Township and the GCLWCF. Register between 8:30am and 9:30am at the Normanoch Clubhouse, East Shore Culver Road. Pick-up materials, gloves, safety vests, and zone maps will be supplied. Return to the Clubhouse by noon to deposit your bags into the provided dumpster. Let's help keep our Lakes clean and beautiful!

COVID rules will apply...masks must be worn anywhere on the Clubhouse grounds.

UPDATES

The Normanoch Installs Innovative Waste Water System. A new technology, an alum waste water conditioning system, was recently installed near the door to the canteen area at the Normanoch Association Clubhouse. This system will remove more than 90% of the phosphorus and coliform in waste water after it enters the septic tank. Reducing the phosphorus loading into the lake will help prevent the occurrence of Harmful Algae Blooms, (HABs) and enhance the quality of Culver Lake water. The installation was funded by the Normanoch Association, and promoted by the Greater Culver Lake Watershed Conservation Foundation as a "best practice."

The system, developed by Clear Lake Technology, LLC, was installed by Pierson Septic Services, LLC. For information on installing an affordable alum system at your home, call: Clear Lake Technology at 973-222-3450 or Pierson Septic Services at 973-948-7295.

GCLWCF Logo Update. We've added some territory to our boundaries in the Northern Paulinskill area, and expanded our mission, so we decided an "update" to our look was in order. We've changed the color scheme and fonts, but have retained the basic original artwork.

We are also updating our website to include more resources, and to be more user friendly. We hope you will like the changes when completed!

GCLWCF and The Normanoch WQ Committee Collaborate on Best Lakefront Practices Brochure. We've been working together to publish a booklet that will help homeowners understand the importance of simple practices that can make a big difference to our lake's water quality. The booklet should be ready by summer.

Example: During construction or landscaping projects it is important to properly install sediment fences, and divert runoff around the disturbed areas to minimize erosion.

How can you help?

- Plant a Rain Garden.
- Reduce Impermeable Surfaces in your yard.
- Maintain your Septic Tank.

Send a Generous Gift to the Foundation NOW to help us preserve and protect the precious waterways and lakes in the northern Paulinskill River Watershed that we love so much. GCLWCF is a 501(c)(3) environmental charity.

All donations are tax deductible.



Greater Culver Lake
Watershed Conservation
Foundation

Email: info@gclwcf.org • Web: www.gclwcf.org
Mail: PO Box 967 • Branchville, NJ 07826
Phone: 973-250-8122

DONATE NOW

Visit the Website

Protecting the Lakes and Tributaries of the Upper Northern Paulinskill Watershed

BOARD MEMBERS: Rick Ferruggia, Danae Dotz, John Fabian, Terry McQuillin, Scott Myer, Judy Nysten, Dorothea Wefing
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