



# MICHIGAN LAKE AND STREAM ASSOCIATIONS

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## ML&SA Region 5—Gratiot, Ingham, Genessee, Livingston, Saginaw & Shiaswassee Counties

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## *ANNUAL REPORT—April 2002-April 2003*

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**Membership:** During Year 2002, 28 lake associations in Region 5 were active MLSA members. Phil and I wish to thank all the active member associations for their support and participation. Region 5 wishes to encourage our regional lake associations that have not yet renewed or obtained memberships for Year 2002 to do so as soon as possible. The MLSA depends upon money from your memberships to put on programs such as the annual conference. In addition, if you know of any lake residents, government officials, or community residents in Region 5 who may be interested in joining MLSA (individually or otherwise), have them contact Phil or me for MLSA membership information.

**Meetings and Conferences:** From April 2002 through April 2003, Region 5 held a fall conference and one (1) lake representative meeting.

- **Fall Conference:** Region 5's fall conference was held at Jackson Community College on October 5, 2002. It was a joint conference hosted by Regions 1, 2, and 5. The conference was very well attended. Sessions included talks on lake management planning, best methods and practices for Aquatic Plant Management, funneling and marina issues, and an update on MLSA issues.
- **Lake Representative Meeting:** Region 5 held a lake representatives meeting jointly with Region 1 and the Hamburg Township CLMP participants on February 15, 2003. The meeting was held at the Hamburg Township Senior Center in Whitmore Lake. This year's meeting, for whatever reason, was not well attended. Although that was the case, a number of good things did occur as a result of the meeting. Phil Paye, Region 5's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and a board member on Ore Lake's Association, gave a presentation discussing Hamburg Township's proposed fertilizer ordinance. The ordinance is designed to restrict phosphorus in lawn fertilizers that are used around lakes in the township. The meeting was attended by a free-lance writer for the Detroit Free Press (Livingston Section) and the writer followed up the meeting with a very positive article regarding the need for the ordinance. Since that time, Hamburg Township has officially adopted the ordinance. The meeting also hosted a talk by Howard Wandell summarizing the need for volunteers to monitor Michigan's lakes and the positive outcome that can come from these efforts. The free-lance writer from the Detroit Free Press-Livingston Section did a follow-up article stressing the need for and the importance of volunteer lake monitoring.

**Upcoming Plans:** Region 5 hopes to build membership in the MLSA through additional lake association, corporate, and individual memberships. We also plan to host at least one lake representatives meeting and a fall conference in October, 2003. If you have ideas for future regional activities, please contact either Phil or me. We welcome your thoughts.