

2003 REGION 5 ANNUAL REPORT: April 2003 - April 2004

Lake Associations in Gratiot, Ingham, Genessee, Livingston, Saginaw & Shiaswassee Counties

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Membership: During Year 2003, 26 lake associations in Region 5 were paid MLSA members. Overall, Region 5 lost memberships from 3 lake associations and gained membership from one association. I wish to thank all the associations that paid dues and/or contributed to the MLSA in 2003 for their support and participation. Region 5 wishes to encourage our regional lake associations that have not yet renewed or obtained memberships for Year 2004 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 me for MLSA membership information.

Meetings and Conferences: From April 2003 through April 2004, 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 11, 2003. It was a joint conference hosted by Regions 1, 2, and 5. The conference was fairly well attended. Sessions included a presentation by Dale Black, from Brooks Township (Newago), on MLSA and Local Governments, a presentation by Tim Anderson, a local planner, about working with local planning commissions, a presentation by Laura Esman, from the DEQ, about Michigan's new administrative rules for Aquatic Nuisance Control, and a presentation by Don Winne, from the MLSA, regarding current happening within the MLSA.
- **Lake Representative Meeting:** Region 5 held a lake representatives meeting jointly with Region 1 and the Hamburg Township CLMP participants on February 21, 2004. The meeting was held at the Hamburg Township Senior Center in Whitmore Lake. Approximately 30 people from Regions 1 and 5 were in attendance. Several of the meeting attendees were new to the CLMP program and were attending this lake representatives meeting for the first time. Howard Wandell, as an invited speaker, summarized the need for volunteers to monitor Michigan's lakes and the positive outcome that can come from these efforts. He also discussed the MLSA/DEQ Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) and the tests conducted as part of that program. A speaker from Hamburg Township also attended the meeting and talked about Hamburg Township's newly proposed storm water management ordinance.

Regional 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, 2004. If you have ideas for future regional activities, please contact me. I welcome your thoughts.

Region 5 Needs:

- Phil Paye, Second Vice President for the MLSA Region 5, resigned from his duties effective July 1, 2003. Phil moved from the Livingston County area to pursue new goals. Phil is missed. Phil's resignation from the MLSA as Region 5 Second Vice President has created an opening for a new volunteer to work with MLSA to promote lake and stream matters and to help Region 5 lake association members, individual members, and corporate members learn, understand, and provide direction on riparian issues. If you have an interest in serving in this capacity, please contact Ginny Himich. It's a wonderful opportunity to work with a growing organization and to promote protection of Michigan's valuable lakes and streams.
- I would like to generate an email contact list with email addresses for a representative from each of our Region 5 member lake associations. At the current time, I do not have a complete list of email addresses for our Region 5 member associations. Email is a very effective way to pass along important MLSA updates and information to help you keep informed about MLSA business. I am encouraging each Region 5 lake association president to provide me with an email address for a person in your lake association who can serve as a contact person for your association. That person would be the person to whom I direct emails about the MLSA and the person responsible for bringing the information to the attention of your lake association board. Please send your email address to: himichv@michigan.gov. Thank you for your help!