

Seneca Lake Club - Spring 2020

FROM THE BOARD

We hope this finds you well during this difficult time.

The Seneca Lake Board works to bring you a financially responsible community that serves the recreational purposes of the lake. Water quality, beach cleanliness, public safety and investing in keeping our facilities clean and safe are among our highest priorities.

We managed to complete a very successful road cleanup thanks to the many volunteers and despite the restrictions we had to place on the event. But the overriding question for us and from many of you is how COVID-19 is going to impact our spring and Summer activities at the lake.

Please recognize there is still too much uncertainty at this point to say precisely how we will move forward. The underlying principle is to promote the health, safety and welfare of our residents

We hope to hear more from in the coming days from our Governor but for now and to comply with executive stay-at-home orders and social distancing; fishing and boating are allowed at the lake but the playground and clubhouse/bathrooms are not open at this time. Swimming and group gatherings of 10 or more on Seneca Lake property are prohibited. If you do go down to the beach area we ask that you consider a mask, keep your 6 feet distances, and bring sanitized wipes to clean benches, other sitting areas, or anything you may come into contact with or plan to use.

We will listen to and abide by the CDC and our State and local authorities and follow their guidelines as far as spacing, behaviors, cleaning of common areas, and when we can lift some of these restrictions. We expect social distancing guidelines to remain in effect for an extended period of time and will adapt reasonable rules and regulations for use of our outdoor recreational facilities.

We appreciate your compliance with the restrictions we have put in place and will update you as soon as we have any further updates on the opening of our facilities.

We can be reached by email at senecalakeclub@gmail.com, and welcome your feedback and suggestions

We thank you and wish you good health as we prepare for the summers activities and events

You're Seneca Lake Club Board

Officers

President David Mazzella
Vice President Joanne Scally
Treasurer Christine Molbury
Secretary Fred Welles

Trustees

Don Collis
Nate Carsto
Marion Cuff
Rich Grega
Dave Richmond

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beach Setup at the clubhouse - To Be Announced

Beach Opening Day - To be announced

Annual Memorial Day Weekend Picnic - to be Re-Scheduled

Friday Night Corn Hole - Keep an eye out on the sandwich board sign by the clubhouse once we are able to begin

OPENING DAY BEACH BBQ

Unfortunately, due to state mandates, we will not be able to hold our traditional Opening BBQ Memorial Day weekend

As soon as we are allowed, a BBQ event will be scheduled

FACILITIES UPDATE

Last year was a big year for us in terms of facilities modernization which has been our focus over the past few years. Two years ago we replaced all docking. Last year we re-sided the clubhouse, modernized the bathrooms, installed additional outside clubhouse lighting, installed an outside shower platform, installed a ceiling fan, and purchased new Adirondack chairs for the beach.

With major upgrades now complete, this year's focus will be on smaller improvements and ongoing maintenance including:

Replacing the steps leading to the beach, repairing and painting the bathroom floors, installing a Seneca Lake Club sign, purchasing additional Adirondack chairs, and adding a fresh layer of mulch to the playground.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with these projects. If you're able to lend a hand, contact Fred Welles - fred.welles@gmail.com who will be coordinating those projects.

MULTIPLE PAYMENTS / PRE-PAYMENT

In an effort to offer flexibility and ease the burden some have on a one-time payment, we will now offer the option for you to pre-pay your upcoming 2020/2021 dues and allow you to make multiple payments to spread out the full amount due. Payment in full by October 1st, 2020 is still expected.

You should have received an email from our treasurer, Christine Molbury which provided all the details. If not, please email Senecalakeclub@gmail.com to request more information

WATER MANAGEMENT

Our greatest asset is our lake and we work very hard at keeping it clean so that we can maximize its use for both fishing and swimming.

You may not be aware but we are required to take water tests each week that the lake is open to swimming and submit those to the county health department for their testing. If we were to fail those tests, our beach would be closed to swimming.

One of the greatest threats to water quality is goose feces. Throughout the year we manage our geese population and try to limit (or eliminate) as much as possible goose fecal matter from entering the lake which can quickly cause our water quality to reach unsafe levels. Our goose management program includes adding eggs in the spring, installing goose deterrent lights, installing goose deterrent roping on the beach front, and goose harassment through the use of noise. We do all this as humanly as possible and follow Fish and Wildlife guidelines

Weeds also impact the quality of our water and we invest significant dollars each year in controlling weed growth using a third party vendor. We've been very successful in keeping the weeds to a minimum over the years and will continue that program in 2020.

FIRST AID AND AED

For the safety of all, during the beach season there is a fully equipped First Aid box and AED device in the clubhouse garage, marked by the first aid signage, which also has a phone to be used for emergency situations

BEACH PARTY RESERVATIONS

While group gatherings of 10 or more are prohibited at this time you may still want to reserve the clubhouse area for your private parties this summer, which must be done by completing a request as outlined on our Website.

NEW TO SENECA LAKE

Please join us in welcoming your new neighbors:

Jessika Decker - 8 South White Birch Terrace

Damian and Nicole Mohr - 3 North White Birch Terrace

Casey and Alexa Weiss - 3 Whitlins Way

Gavin and Tonya Taylor - 112 Seneca Lake Road

Eric Eccelston and family - 104 Seneca Lake Road

DAM MANAGEMENT

Our Dam requires ongoing maintenance and a bi-annual inspection done by the NJ division of dam safety and flood control. Last year we received a satisfactory grade. You can find the full inspection report along with documents on our emergency evacuation, and our operations and maintenance document on our website.

Thanks to Dave Mazzella for all the work to manage and maintain the dam, coordinating the inspection, and developing the required documents

BOAT REGISTRATION

All boats stored on the beach boat racks must be registered with The Seneca Lake Club and require an annual \$20.00 fee per boat. **Boats not registered by June 1, 2020 will be removed at the owner's expense.**

To register your boat(s), email senecalakeclub@gmail.com and request a boat registration form.

FISHING AND WATERCRAFT/BOATING RULES

A reminder of the rules for fishing and boating at Seneca Lake

Fishing

- Seneca Lake is a catch and release lake. All fish caught must be released back into the lake and unharmed
- Fishing is prohibited within the roped off areas
- Ice Fishing is prohibited at all times

Boats/Watercraft

- Gas powered watercraft/boats are prohibited
- All watercraft/boats must be registered
- Watercraft are to be launched from the left side of the dock
- Watercraft/boats may not be docked on the beach
- Personal floatation devices are required for each boater

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We are always interested in hearing from our community members on ideas and suggestions on how to improve and increase use of our facilities and hear events or activities that may be of interest to you.

Please send your ideas and suggestions to senecalakeclub@gmail.com and be sure to follow us on Facebook at Seneca Lake Club, Sparta NJ. We share a lot of information.