

Burden Lake Conservation Association

P.O. Box 656, Averill Park, New York 12018

EMAIL: burdenlakeconservation@gmail.com

Dear Friends:

January 2019

Happy 2019! The lake season will be here quickly after the winter months and we are looking forward to an exciting year. It is also the time to renew your Burden Lake Membership under the name of **Burden Lake Conservation Association, BLCA**. Your membership and financial support of the Water Quality Fund is important to maintaining the quality of lake activities throughout the year.

The board of directors think it is important to keep you informed on all the committee information that affects all members. News of the committee activities in 2018 includes:

Clubhouse Committee

1. Repaired roof.
2. Repaired ladies room with new fiberglass walls and installed new plumbing fixtures and painted bathrooms.
3. Installed new fiberglass walls with new 4 burner commercial gas stove and cleaned. Painted kitchen.

Water Quality Committee

We studied water reports and results in this lake and other lakes so we could evaluate options to manage 3rd Burden Lake's invasive weed challenge. We reached the following conclusions:

1. We have been good stewards of water quality in the 3rd Burden Lake, obtaining significant improvements in water quality. Increased water clarity has unfortunately accelerated invasive weed growth. (See the link to the published results shared in the December Newsletter).
2. Historic spending has steadily increased and has become unsustainable. Our spending to date exceeds \$200,000 for invasive weed chemical treatments. The current quote for treatment of curly pondweed alone is \$72,000.
3. Based on the foregoing, the committee moved forward with purchase of echo-harvester for \$77,572. It will be used for years to come to pull weeds and extract without cutting or fragmentation. Removal of biomass will reduce the nutrient load locking up in bottom muck.

Finance committee

The mission is to work towards a strong financial foundation for the Burden Lake Conservation Association members. The committee guided the Board of Directors to the new formation of BLCA with 82 to 3. Restructuring was officially passed (formation completed October 31, 2018).

In addition, the changes the reformation created were many. We have applied for IRS approval as a 501c3 nonprofit, which will save significantly in property, income tax, and sales tax costs. This will also enable us to seek government grants.

Future is financially secure with members' support!

Events Committee

New events were part of 2018 and the plan is to implement more ideas this year that members bring forward. Plans are to encourage more use of the clubhouse and grounds area for family fun.

Newsletter/Social Media

In December the building of BLCA information sites was started with a kick off of the Newsletter. Every member that shared an email with the BLCA should have received an email with links. The plan is for four Newsletters a year and occasional emails with reminders. Please use the burdenlakeconservation@gmail.com to reach us or check out THEBLCA.org website. Instagram and Facebook will be used for event information and photo sharing.

Executive Committee

The board of directors are working with the other committee members to create a structure that carries on the mission of lake conservation. Your 2019 Board of Directors will serve to bring in some new events, education, and water quality opportunities. We need your support to help us move forward.

The **BLCA membership application** is enclosed. Payment options are by return mail or online through PayPal. For online go to the Facebook page or the new www.THEBLCA.org website for the direct link.

Thank you for your continued support and ideas.

Sincerely,

BLCA Clubhouse committee

BLCA Water Quality committee

BLCA Events committee

BLCA Newsletter/Social Media committee

BLCA Finance committee

BLCA Executive committee