



Next Meeting

Wednesday February 4th 2026 @ Rollin Township Hall 7pm

President's Message

The month of December 2025 was colder and snowier than it has been the last few years. The lakes froze over early in the month and there were a few ice fishermen that ventured out to try their luck.

But mother nature changed everything in early January. We had a few warmer than normal sunny days and a little rain and the ice slowly melted away. As of mid-January, there is still some ice on the lakes and a lot of open water. Below normal temperatures are forecast for the remainder of the month.

Last December 13th, we had our annual get-together to pack Christmas bags with household and personal items for the families in need here in our area. I want to thank all the volunteers that stepped in and helped to make that event a success. I also want to thank all of the LPL members that sent in a donation along with their annual membership renewal. Those donations are used to purchase the items for the gift bags.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help out with LPL activities. At the February 4th meeting we will start planning and organizing for the 2026 LPL Membership Directory that we deliver to all the residents around the lakes starting on the Memorial Day weekend. As of right now we need a few members to step up and volunteer to help produce the membership directory. We need volunteers to look up information and bring it up to date for the new year. We also need volunteers to contact businesses to ask them to place an ad in our directory. If you can help with updating informational articles or soliciting ads, please contact one of the officers or board members to let us know. Contact information is in the current membership directory and also available on our website.

New Members

Debbie Lambrix; Kory & Elizabeth Maurer-Lott; John & Connie Nicholl; Jim & Maia Bica

Scholarship/Grant Opportunities

Undergraduate Scholarship

2026 Award: One \$3,000 scholarship will be awarded to a current student enrolled in a freshwater studies program at a Michigan educational institution (with a preference for lake and watershed studies). The scholarship recipient will also attend the 65th Annual MLSA Conference held in person on Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2, 2026, at the VanDyk Mortgage Convention Center in Muskegon, MI, as our guest. Deadline to Apply is March 6, 2026.

Lake Research Student Grant Program

The Michigan Lakes and Streams Association (MLSA) is calling for proposals for the 2026 Lake Research Student Grants Program. The purpose of the program is to promote student efforts to work with lakes and lake communities to enhance lake management. Projects that increase the understanding of lake ecology, strengthen collaborative lake management, address inland lakes fisheries, build lake partnerships, and/or expand citizen involvement in lake management are eligible for consideration. This year, one or more grants will be awarded, with a total of \$4,000 allocated to this year's program. Proposals will be funded for a period of one calendar year. Projects must have a Michigan focus.

Deadline: March 16, 2026

Data Center Impact on Water Usage

If you are following local news, you will see some protests going on about proposed data centers in communities across Michigan. These protestors are concerned about water usage in their communities. It's easy to say – Michigan has lots of water, right? The truth is that there is merit to concerns about data center placements, even in the water wonderland. Data centers can pose significant risks to Michigan's freshwater resources—not because of pollution, but because of the amount of water they consume and where they consume it.

[Data centers in Michigan](#): What you need to know

BurrrrrrrrrrIt's not too late to protect your home.....

Prepare the inside of your home

- Get your chimney inspected and cleaned. Creosote buildup can start a fire.
- Get your furnace inspected to ensure it's safe and will last the winter.
- Test your carbon monoxide and smoke alarms. Alarms older than 10 years should be replaced.
- Seal leaks or cracks around bathroom and kitchen pipes.
- Check your attic insulation for areas that need repair.
- Stock up on bottled water, nonperishable food, and batteries in case your power goes out.

Prepare the outside of your home

- Trim trees hanging over your house and cars.
- Clean the gutters.
- Winterize your pool and check your coverage. If the temperatures dip below freezing, run the pump to keep the pipes from freezing.
- Find your water shutoff valve. It's usually under a metal lid near the street between your house and the larger manhole cover with the city water shutoff valve. Test the valve to make sure it's not stuck and that you can shut it off in an emergency. If you can't, contact a plumber to replace it.

2026 Tip Up Festival

Friday February 6 – Sunday February 8

[Annual Tip-Up Festival Devils & Round Lake](#) - Feb 6, 2026, to Feb 8, 2026

Update on Devils and Round Lake Vegetation Survey

In 2025 the Lakes Preservation League received an anonymous donation that was earmarked to be used for study or evaluation of Devils and Round Lakes. In response, a project was approved for the engagement of Keiser & Associates (K&A) to perform a comprehensive vegetation survey that is intended to go well beyond current methods expected by state regulators. The surveys were performed in early Fall, and a full report will be presented to LPL as well as Woodstock and Rollin Townships this spring. We will be reaching out to all members at that time.

LPL goals with this effort include the following:

- Obtain an independent third-party assessment of lake management needs focused on specific objectives and definable ecological goals.
- Develop meaningful data to assist in effective management including evaluation of real or perceived issues. Data that brings value towards achieving management goals.
- Identify information gaps around important lake concerns to ensure focus remains on most important issues.
- Obtain recommendations based on sound science and engineering. This results in performance monitoring of lake management actions, adapting approaches where successes are not yet achieved, and celebrating demonstrable successes.

We hope that everyone is staying safe and warm this winter. Please join us at the February 4th 2026 LPL meeting and consider volunteering to help make sure we are able to produce the 2026 Directory with the same quality and informative format that our community has experienced in past years. WE NEED YOU!!! Please reach out if you do have content, you would like included in future newsletters!

Brittany Williamson

LPL Newsletter Editor
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