

# Indian Lake Smoke Signals

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## Fall Cleanup

The Indian Lake spring cleanup was a big success (even though quite wet!) with assistance from many volunteers including students at St. John's High School. **Our fall cleanup will be on Saturday, November 6th from 9am to noon.** Please attend our October 5th meeting at 6pm if you can assist with cleanup coordination. Meetings are held at Ford's Hometown Services, 649 Grove Street.

## WPI Project

Little Indian Lake is located on the south side of Route 122A near Forest Grove Middle School. This smaller water body was cut off from the larger main body of Indian Lake many years ago when the state reconstructed Route 122A without installing the proper pass through for the water to transition between the large and small body of water. Without a continuous flow of water, the lake becomes stagnant and has endured an ongoing problem with weeds.

Little Indian was in need of a diagnostic/feasibility to characterize the existing conditions in the lake and surrounding watershed that may be impacting the situation as well as recommendations for future management for the long term health of the water body.

We were very fortunate, under the direction of Professor Chickery Kasouf, to have 3 enthusiastic WPI juniors choose Little Indian as their Interactive Qualifying Project. Victoria Mason, Evan Costa and Christian Waller spent nearly 6 months

studying Little Indian and making recommendations based on their findings.

They finished by doing a formal presentation in the spring to the ILWA board. More information as well as their informative presentation is available under 'current projects' at [www.ilwa.org](http://www.ilwa.org). We are very thankful to have been able to work with WPI and these bright students on this important lake project.



## Community Outreach

An ILWA representative was invited to St. George's Catholic Church in April to kickoff their series 'Catholics Going Green'. Beth Proko spoke to a group of parishners about the efforts of the ILWA, watershed protection and what they can do to help protect the watershed. The presentation can be found on our website. Many thanks to John Paul Marosy and St. George for this opportunity.

This spring, Beth also had the opportunity to speak to students in the Public and Community Relations class at Worcester State University taught by longtime ILWA board member, Kevin O'Sullivan. Included in the presentation about community service were the many successful projects undertaken by the ILWA.

These wonderful opportunities provide great forums to share our successes but are also intended to inspire others to give back to the community they live in.

If you would like an ILWA representative to speak to your group or would like help developing your own presentation, contact Beth Proko at 508-856-9598.

## Help Fill Some BIG Shoes

Many of our members are familiar with our dear friend and board member Herb Adams who mows and maintains Hapgood-Brooks and Frostholm War Memorials and Morgan Park. At 'eighty-something' this amazing World War II veteran gives back endlessly to his community and we have been so fortunate as a neighborhood and group to be beneficiaries of his efforts. Late this spring Herb developed some medical issues that have prevented him from doing the work at the three above mentioned sites. In his absence, many have pitched in to help keep these locations maintained. Many thanks to Mikey and Mike Sloan for mowing Morgan Park, Lincoln McDonald and friends for their assistance with Frostholm Memorial (across from Strand's Ski Shop) and Bob Gates and the Proko Family for helping with Hapgood-Brooks Memorial (at the intersection of Rt 122A and Holden St),

Anyone that can help with mowing, trimming, watering, weeding or picking up trash would be appreciated!

## Fish Stocking Fund

It has been at least 13 years since Indian Lake was last stocked with Northern Pike and Tiger Muskies. A number of members have expressed a renewed interest in the fishing and quality of fish in the water body. We would like to move forward with a stock of Northern Pike which will cost \$5000. We are creating a fund just for this purpose and monies will be tracked separately so as not to take away from our ongoing costs for equipment maintenance and replacement.

**An anonymous donation of \$2500 has already been made to support this effort!!! Please send your tax deductible donations to support this effort made to the ILWA, 5 North Pond Rd, Worcester 01605. Please put 'FISH FUND' in the memo.** We must have monies in place by November 1st to coordinate stocking in the spring. Thank you for your support!

**For more information, visit our website at [www.ilwa.org](http://www.ilwa.org)!!**

## Thanks to Bancroft School/ Greendale YMCA

Many kudos to Bancroft School and the Greendale YMCA for continuing their cooperative agreement with the City of Worcester to provide maintenance and lifeguards this summer at Shore Park. This is a great example of a public/private partnership that has been beneficial to so many Worcester residents!

## Pumping Station Upgrades

Joe Buckley, assistant director of the City of Worcester Sewer Operations, has informed the ILWA of recent upgrades to the Sears Island pumping station. The pumps, which had not been replaced since 1972 (!!), were replaced and the generator capacity was increased. So basically, in the event of a loss of power, the generator will be able to run unattended for a longer period of time.

In addition, the design for upgrades to the generator and controllers for the Holden Street pumping station are complete and work is expected to begin soon.

Thank you to the Worcester DPW for these important efforts to ensure these stations are working properly.

## Membership Update

Every donation, big or small makes a difference to what we as an organization are able to accomplish at Indian Lake and in our surrounding neighborhood. It is very much appreciated. In an effort to streamline our membership process, we will no longer be sending the ILWA membership cards.

For those of you who take the time to send a little note with your membership, please know that each of these kind thoughts is read and appreciated.

We will continue providing as much information as possible in our newsletter and on the ILWA website.

New neighbor? Please pass on this copy of our newsletter!

**Please direct questions, comments or suggestions for this newsletter to:  
Beth Proko 508-856-9598 or [bproko@charter.net](mailto:bproko@charter.net)**