

Indian Lake Smoke Signals

Volume 2, Issue 14

April 2008

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Spring Cleanup

The Indian Lake spring cleanup will be held on **Saturday, May 10th from 9am to Noon.**

We will be working at Shore Park, Morgan Park and Norton Drive. Please meet at Shore Park at 9am.



agement Team. Volunteers filled 43 trash bags with trash collected along the shoreline including 6 tires, 13 car parts, 66 articles of clothing, over 200 food wrappers or containers and nearly 1000 beverage containers! Thank you to everyone who took part in this successful day!

Police Crime Watch

The Worcester Police Department's Community Impact Division has started an Indian Lake Watch Group which will have its first meeting mid April at Ford's Hometown Services. The watch groups are designed to address quality of life issues in the Indian Lake area. The contact person for this meeting is David Kowalchek. Our District Police Officer is Officer Gerald O'Connor. For information on future meetings, please visit the following web page:

<http://www.wpdimpact.com/indianlake.htm>

Frosthalm Memorial

We were graced with a beautiful day in May for the rededication of the Frosthalm Memorial. The outpouring of support for this memorial in the form of donations and volunteer hours was truly an incredible tribute to our Veterans. Special thanks to Rob Antonelli of Worcester DPW & Parks and Karen Greenwood of Worcester's Veteran's Services for their efforts in organizing the rededication.

We are trying to update the list of names before Memorial Day. If you have not submitted a name that you feel should be included on the memorial, please contact Bob Gates at 508-852-6325 before **May 1st.**

Results of Fall Cleanup/ Coastsweep Day

Loree Griffin Burns, local scientist and author of *Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion*, coordinated our fall cleanup/COASTSWEEP event on October 28th in celebration of twenty years of ocean protection by The Ocean Conservancy and its Massachusetts counterpart, COASTSWEET. The Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup (ICC), which kicked off across the country in September 2007, is the world's largest volunteer effort to improve the health of the ocean and its wildlife. In addition to cleaning up waterways and beaches, volunteers collect important data on the types, quantity and location of marine debris. The information they gather is compiled into an annual report that is then used to educate and inform citizens and policymakers on ocean conservation issues.

Over 150 volunteers took part in our effort either picking up and recording items collected along the waterway, cleaning up Morgan and Shore Parks and stenciling storm drains with the help of the Department of Public Works Storm Water Man-

New Life for Shore Park

As summer began last year, a cooperative agreement was reached between the City of Worcester, Bancroft School and the Greendale YMCA to operate Shore Park. This arrangement in which Bancroft will oversee maintenance and the YMCA will provide life-guards, swim lessons and other programs at the park represents a significant partnership which will allow public access to this beautiful facility once again.

The long awaited removal of the barbed wire fence has already made this facility more appealing. Please consider helping to continue making headway at Shore Park at our cleanup on May 10th or stop by for a picnic or swim one day!



Helpful Numbers

In light of the tragic jetski accident last Memorial Day weekend on Indian Lake, we would like to make sure all of our members of the Indian Lake Watershed Association have the following numbers:

WORCESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Main number: 508-799-8606 (any time)
Operations: 508-799-8669 (someone is usually only at this phone during the day)

MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE

Dispatch: 800-632-8075
Office: 978-630-3748

Do not hesitate to contact the Worcester Police Department (WPD) if you see illegal activities happening at the parks surrounding the lake and Environmental Police in regards to reckless driving and improper use of boats or personal watercraft on the lake.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the ILWA Board of Directors will be **MONDAY, MAY 5th at 6:30pm** at Ford's Hometown Services. Representatives from the Worcester Police Department, Environmental Police and District 1 City Councilor Joff Smith should be on hand to discuss plans for Indian Lake and Morgan Park this summer.

For more information, visit our website at www.ilwa.org!!

Forest Grove Environmental Scientists

Science teacher Donald Brown at Forest Grove Middle School has been doing some awesome things with his students around Little Indian Lake over the past couple of years. He would like to expand on environmental education with his 7th and 8th graders and we gladly welcome more help with the lake so this is truly a win-win situation.

The students start working with Don in the 7th and continue on in the 8th grade. For the last two years, they have been working on a base line ecological study of the Indian Lake area. They have observed and counted many species of animals and plants. Along with water quality testing of Little Indian Lake, the students have observed and identified many pond macro and micro organisms. They hope to build an ecological base line that they can use to identify ecological changes in the future.

To date, the students have monitored the following water data: pH, clarity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, turbidity, phosphates and nitrates for Little Indian Lake only but will now take on the monitoring at various points at both lakes using the ILWA equipment.

In addition to many students participating in the fall COASTSWEEP cleanup, they hold several clean ups a year keeping the area around Little Indian Lake clean. Don hopes to have the students take soundings (depth data) of both Little Indian and Indian Lake and make updated depth contour maps as well.

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**