

# NORTH LAKES NEWS

August 2007

## 2007 Annual Meeting

The North Lakes annual meeting is scheduled October 15<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria of Plaza Middle School – west side of building, 7PM. We will be discussing issues of importance to North lakes residents and also voting on five Board members. Please come offering to nominate someone for a Board position or to serve as a committee chair!

## Fall Garage Sale

Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 8AM-8:30PM and Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, from 8AM-5PM

## What's Happening with the Lake??

This is the most asked question lately and, in response, the Board met to examine the reasons for the increased algae. They have determined first of all, that the lake is much clearer than in the past. This allows sunlight to penetrate to the bottom and that, in turn, encourages growth of algae which then floats to the top. Also, our lake is 20+ years old and, consequently, it has filled in with leaves and sediment, making it generally shallower. Lastly, the run off of fertilizer from lake yards increases the phosphate levels, which also encourages algae growth. We ask that all residents ***maintain a six foot margin when spreading fertilizer and other lawn chemicals*** so that they are not deposited directly in the lake. Please instruct your lawn service to do this, as well.

The contract with Blue Valley Laboratories is on-going and in order to maintain a good quality lake and fountains, we will continue and consider adding the following procedures:

- The lake has recently been, and will continue to be, sprayed with copper sulfate (an algaecide) every three weeks. Spraying more often could result in damaging the eco-system of the lake and killing fish.
- The lake has been and will be dyed monthly to inhibit the favorable algae growing conditions.
- We are investigating introducing a non-reproducing algae-eating grass carp into the lake. Our experts tell us that this will not completely eradicate the problem but, in conjunction with other measures, it will likely help. These carp are \$7/each and it is recommended we purchase 10-20 per acre of lake.

Lake maintenance experts have informed the Board that, ultimately, the lake will have to be dredged. We've all known this would have to be done sometime in the future. Each quarter, money is being set aside for this purpose but will require about 4 more years of accruals. We are hopeful the added dye, better weather, and the grass carp can buy us this time.

## Tree Trimming

The trees in our front yards along the sidewalks continue to mature. Several of these trees have grown limbs which make walking along the sidewalks difficult and hazardous during the night. Please trim these low limbs in front of your house so everyone can walk and enjoy our neighborhood without fear of hitting their head.

## *North Lakes Board Members*

[www.haccd.org](http://www.haccd.org) (click on Missouri Associations, then North Lakes.)