

February Newsletter



Hemlock Lake Campground



A man outstanding in his field.

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Hemlock Lake Campground

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WHATS HAPPENING...

We're excited to get started! Our equipment is maintained and we're ready to go just as soon as Winter releases it's grip. First will be some electric work. Then we add amending soils to the flower gardens and clean out the privies and restrooms. Then rip out wire and pull underground wire in conduit at Sites 32-36. Maybe our lists have 30 or 40 other 2 hour to 2 day jobs. Then we're ready for our Spring Guests.

We are planning Saturday, April 23rd as our Clean Up Day with chili, coffee and hot dogs at the Pavilion. By then those of you on the Lake front ready to brave the cold water can put in your docks and run up your flags. You can be sure Lynn Loutzenhiser, Mike Pease, Jim Laughlin, Don Casper, Dale and Susan Boyer and others will show up weeks earlier. Season Guests are welcome to join us whenever days turn sunny and kinda warm. We begin playing with the water system just about April 20th, do our tests and shut it off again. I always try to have water available on the weekend before we open as many of you clean and set up about then. Bring your dog. If your dog is fat, you are not getting enough exercise.

DID WE RAISE PRICES?

People have asked if we're raising our prices. No. Don thought it would be a great idea but after Dale Boyer and Frank Merlo threatened him with bodily harm, Don graciously reconsidered. Last May 1st there was a price increase but most Season Guests avoided it by paying earlier. What was an extra charge for Honey Wagon Service, was just incorporated into the rate. Actually our Tent rates for 2 or more tents behind the Chapel

went down. We anticipate no rate change this year unless the electric rate charged by the utility company were adjusted again. We lost money again last year. Don fronted the costs for the electric upgrades. We realize many of our Season Guests are on fixed retirement incomes. We try to keep this place affordable. Even Don's dog Snickers is worried about the economy because Alpo is over \$2 a can – that's almost \$16 in dog money!

REMEMBER WE ARE ON THE WEB:

www.hemlocklakecg.com



OK, Show of hands...
Who's tired of snow?

The Groundhog needs to update his system.

ICE STORM – February 20th

The Hemlock Area was hit hard by freezing rain and sleet on February 20th. The ice on branches brought down many branches, trees and caused extended power outages. The Campground suffered especially to the Northeast. I brought in Bob's Tree Service of Benton Harbor. They ran 4 saws for a day plus and Bob Piekarczyk and I sawed as well. A few trailers were damaged. There is wood left about the Sites for the Season Guests. The front lock was on, then off after the ice storm and will be on again during the thaw. You can drive in on days the ground is frozen. Check ahead to have the frost lock unlocked.



CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
March 15 th , 2011	\$550 due for Season Sites
April 23 rd	Clean-up/Hot Dog Day
April 30 th	Opening Day
May 1 st	Fishing Contest
- Sept. 6 th	
May 1 st	2 nd installment due on Season Sites
June 11 & 12 th	Free Fishing Weekend-No License
June 15 th	Final installment due for Season Sites
June 19 - 25 th	Flower Contest
July 4	Caswell's Breakfast
August 13	Hog Roast, Raffle, Races
Sept. 3, 4 & 5	Labor Day Weekend
October 2 nd	SEASON CLOSING

SEASON SITES AVAILABLE



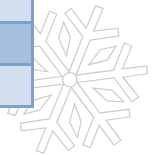
Just about everybody decided to come back! Season Sites **43, 45, 48** and **80** are available to new comers. The Lake Cottage is already booked for the entire Season. The Camping Cabin is still available for many days, weeks and weekends at \$35 a day. Several sites for short stays (even yet for holiday weeks and weekends) are still available.

ELECTRIC OUTAGES

Outages used to be so common. Midwest Electric has ever more reliable service. Now with our own lines being underground we're not so susceptible to outages from storms. We have a stand by Generator just big enough to run the well. We turn on the generator after we determine the power interruption will continue for several hours.

SEASON SITE PAYMENT DEADLINES

SITE	BY 3/15/2011	BY 05/01/2011	BY 06/15/2011
1 - 36	\$550	\$550	\$550
37-58	\$550	\$500	\$500
79-83	\$550	\$550	\$550



Now there is food here – right?



FREE FISHING WEEKEND

June 11 & 12th, 2011, Fishing license fees for everyone are waived on this FREE Fishing Weekend. Catch and release Bass Fishing will be allowed before Bass Season opens. It gives families a chance to enjoy Michigan's Lakes. [Http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/). At other times, anglers over 17 need an "All Species" Fishing License (we have Trout in the Lake). Licenses are available on line or at Carlton Hardware and Yummies. Seniors (65) are \$11.20 for Season, Non-Resident is \$7 per day, or \$42 for Season. Yummies sells bait.



FISHING CONTEST

The HLC Fishing Contest is open to all paying Guests, and the child, or grandchild of a Guest. You must legally catch the fish from Hemlock Lake between daylight May 1st and September 5th, 2011 at 6 p.m. Have your big fish weighed by Barb on the official scales. Our Guests do a lot of fishing. Many keep boats on the Lake or pull them out of our locked storage area when camping here. This should be a great Summer for fishing.

ADULT CONTEST			
BASS	TROUT	BLUE GILL	PERCH
1st-\$100	1st-\$100	1st-\$100	1st-\$100
2nd-\$50	2nd-\$50	2nd-\$50	2nd-\$50
YOUTH CONTEST			
BASS	TROUT	BLUE GILL	PERCH
1st-\$75	1st-\$75	1st-\$75	1st-\$75
2nd-\$25	2nd-\$25	2nd-\$25	2nd-\$25

KAYAK/PADDLE BOAT RACES

August 13th in the afternoon, single place Kayaks down the Lake and back. First prize - \$150 cash; Second Prize- \$100 cash; Third Prize-\$50 cash.

We expect serious competition. One race for all ages. You must be a Guest, child or grandchild of a Season Guest to participate. Adult and children's paddle boat races will precede the Kayak Race. The Kayak Race will be further down the Lake and back. All start from our beach.



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***“The best kept secret
in Southwest
Michigan”***

REMINDERS

- 🏠 Season Guests have free use in the Summer to park their boat and boat trailer in the locking storage area. Season Guests may keep their same storage spot next season for their boat and trailer. Place your blocking in close to the fence out of the mower's reach.
- 🏠 For Season Guests not on sewer, Honey Wagon Service every two weeks is now included in your Season Rate. \$15 for each special service. We will begin in May. Sign up with Barb or Rose.
- 🏠 Guests are sharing docks. Nothing prevents an off-lake Season Guest arranging with an on-lake Season Guest to share their dock.
- 🏠 We are a pet friendly park. All we ask is that you keep your pet on a leash, quiet, and clean up after it.
- 🏠 We allow electric golf carts operated by our adult Guests. We **do not** allow motorized golf carts.

