



RUNYAN LAKE INC.

NEWSLETTER

August 2025

PO Box 105, Fenton MI 48430

www.runyanlakeinc.com

Fall General Meeting

Friday, August 22, 2025

2026 DUES WAIVED RAFFLE !!!!!

Don't miss out!! One lucky member attending the meeting will WIN the opportunity to have their 2026 dues waived.

Fall General Membership Meeting

Tyrone Township Hall,
8420 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton MI 48430

6:00 PM: Social hour, pizza & pop provided

7:00 PM: General Membership Meeting

Agenda:

- Call to order; Pledge of Allegiance; introduce Trustees
- Minutes of Spring 2025 General Membership Meeting
- Treasurer's Reports & proposed 2026 budget
- Social Committee Report, 2026 budget
- Election of Trustees
- Drawing for 2026 dues to be waived (see details)
- Old Business
 - Progressive Water Quality Testing Update
 - Ramp Gate Committee Update
- New / Other Business
 - Goose Control Update
 - Weed Control Update
 - Fireworks Update, 2026 Budget
 - Appointment of 2025 Audit Committee
 - Approval of 2026 Dues and Budget
 - Other Business from Members
- Announcements
 - Boat Ramp Opening
 - Date of Spring 2026 General Membership Meeting, Friday, May 15, 2026
- Adjournment

2025 Fall Social Events

Hot Dog Road – Saturday, August 9th

Music at the Island #2 – Saturday, August 16th

As always please see the website for the latest details!

Chance to have your 2026 RLI dues waived!

Incentive to attend the General Meetings! Attend the fall meeting to be eligible for a drawing to have your dues waived for 2026.

Members must sign in prior to the start of the Membership meeting (7 PM). Only one entry per RLI lot number/tax ID. The winner must be in attendance at the meeting when the drawing is made and announced. Dues on the winning lot only will be waived for 2026. The winning lot at the Spring General Meeting is not eligible to enter the Fall General Meeting drawing.

Trustee Nominations

The following nominations for open Trustee positions have been received. A proxy ballot will be available prior to the Fall General Meeting.

Area 1 – David Verbeke
Area 2 – Andy Nester / Michael Ewles
Area 3 – Pat Maynard
Area 4 – Dan Cypher
Area 5 – Ivan Quinn / Michael Czarnota

Proxy voting

..... is available for anyone who cannot attend the General Membership meeting. A proxy form is available on our website, or you can contact a trustee. You may give your proxy vote to any RLI board member or other RLI member to vote on your behalf on the matters of trustee elections, budget approval, and bylaw changes. Your completed proxy form must be at the RLI PO box 48 hours prior to the meeting, or recorded at the meeting prior to the Call to Order.

Financial Report 2025 YTD & Forecast, 2026 Budget

7/29/2025 Year to Date				Proposed	Proposed	Proposed
Revenue		2024	2025	Budget A	Budget B	Budget C
Description		Actual	Forecast	2026	2026	2026
1	Dues	\$69,750	\$61,775	\$69,275	\$71,775	\$74,275
12	Social Committee (Note 1)	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0
18	Interest	\$3,044	\$3,600	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
1a & b	Donations/other income	\$165	\$120	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total		\$72,959	\$65,495	\$71,775	\$74,275	\$76,775
Expenditures						
2	Printing	\$720	\$720	\$720	\$720	\$720
3	Postage	\$1,041	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
4	P. O. Box Rental	\$176	\$176	\$176	\$176	\$176
5	Membership Meetings	\$810	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
6	ASTI study (possible dredging)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	Weed Control	\$14,304	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
7A	Weed Harvesting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
8	State of Michigan Permits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9	Hall Rental	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
10	General Supplies	\$91	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
12	Social Committee	\$7,101	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
13	Property Repair & Maintenance	\$19,155	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
14	Lake Study	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
15	Liens	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
17	Website/hardware	\$234	\$234	\$234	\$234	\$234
19	Fireworks	\$18,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
20	Property Tax	\$1,563	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$1,600
22	Legal fees/Consulting	\$241	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
26	Boat stickers	\$442	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450
28	Insurance	\$2,642	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
27	Federal tax & Misc	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600
31	Banking Fees	\$55	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
34	Goose busters	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
35	non-RLI expense	\$0				
total		\$67,327	\$71,130	\$71,130	\$71,130	\$71,130
Summary						
Beginning Balance		\$119,557	\$125,189	\$119,554	\$119,554	\$119,554
Ending Balance		\$125,189	\$119,554	\$120,200	\$122,700	\$125,200
Increase (decrease)		\$5,632	(\$5,635)	\$645	\$3,145	\$5,645
Dues				Dues	Dues	Dues
Class A lots		\$ 270.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 280.00	\$ 290.00
Class B Lots		\$ 265.00	\$ 235.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 285.00
Class C lots		\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00

Contingency Expenditures to be funded out of savings/approved Fall Meeting

Property Repair & Maintenance				\$1,000
Legal/Consulting				\$3,000
Coalition Efforts				\$5,000

Island Etiquette

A dog waste station was installed. Please clean up after your dogs! For safety reasons no glass is allowed on the island!

Fair Warning!

Runyan Lake may be a private lake but it remains under the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan. The DNR and Sheriff have keys to our boat ramp and can access Runyan Lake at any time to enforce State of Michigan boating and fishing laws. Runyan Lake Inc. Bylaws require compliance with State of Michigan boating regulations, including having your boat registered with the state. We encourage you to confirm your boat registration is current. Please boat and fish legally and responsibly!

Pontoon Bow Riding

Riding on the front (bow) of a pontoon while under way is both illegal and extremely dangerous. If someone falls overboard the odds are they will be severely injured or killed. Please consider the safety of your family and friends by not allowing this behavior on your pontoon.

Boating Safety Reminders

PWC riders MUST wear life jackets and be off the water by sunset! No towing of surfers/skiers or tubing is permitted during the period of 1 hour after sunset to 1 hour prior to sunrise!

Michigan Boating Laws

Age Restrictions

Persons less than 12 years of age:

- May not operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 35 hp legally under any conditions.

Persons 12 to 15 years of age:

- May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp legally only if they:
 - Have passed a boating safety course approved by the Department of Natural Resources and have on board their boating safety certificate or...
 - Are accompanied on board by a person at least 16 years of age.

Persons 16 years of age or older may operate any boat on the waters of Michigan. See stipulations for Personal Watercraft (PWC) below.

Personal Watercraft

- Those less than 14 years of age may not legally operate a PWC.
- Those 14 and 15 years of age may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate and...
- He or she is accompanied on board by his or her parent or legal guardian or by a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian or...
- He or she is operating or riding the PWC at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or legal guardian or from a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian.

Those at least 16 years of age and born after December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate. Those born on or before December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally without restrictions.

It is illegal to operate a PWC during the period that begins at sunset and ends at 8:00 a.m. "Sunset" means that time determined by the national weather service.

100 Foot Rule

Please remember to observe the 100 foot rule – if your watercraft is moving fast enough to create a wake you must stay at least 100 feet from the shore or any boat, dock, or raft. You are responsible for damage from your boat's wake

Runyan Lake Navigation

Please reference the recommended lake navigation map on our website. If you are new to the lake, there will be two buoys located at each sandbar. To avoid hitting the sand bar do not operate your watercraft between the two buoys unless you are at slow/no wake speed and have trimmed up your motor.

Wake Surfers – Please use the areas identified on the navigation map when possible to minimize damage to shorelines and docked watercraft. If there is no other traffic on the lake it is suggested you use the identified areas bi-directionally. Please be aware your boat wake is large and can cause stability issues for smaller watercraft such as kayaks and peddle boats. The island dock is also taking a beating so that area should be avoided when possible.

Ski Course – The ski course is for use by slalom skiers. For skier safety the course is used only during calm water conditions and when no other boat traffic is on the lake. On weekends this is typically from 6:30 am until 9:00 am. Please avoid boat wakes during this limited time the course is available for use.

The ski course should not be used by personal watercraft since damage to a buoy can damage the course and/or cause parts of the course to become too close to the surface of the water and become a navigation hazard.

2025 Fishing Contest Results

Youth (8 and under)			
Category	Place	Winner	Size/Weight
Bass	1st	Silas Chartrand	19 1/4" / 3 lbs 14 oz
	2nd	Ellan Canever	18" / 2 lbs 11 oz
	3rd	Zoe Zantop	17" / 1 lbs 15 oz
Pan Fish	1st	Silas Chartrand (rock bass)	10" / 10 oz
	2nd	Emma Eisinger (rock bass)	9 3/4" / 10 oz
	3rd	Isla Chartrand (rock bass)	9 1/2" / 10 oz
Other	1st	Zoe Zantop (Pike)	29" / 5 lbs 1 oz
Juniors (ages 9-12)			
Category	Place	Winner	Size/Weight
Bass	1st	Cole Lenaux	17" / 2 lbs 13oz
	2nd	Cannon Cypher	15 3/4" / 1 lb 9oz
	3rd	Eli Justice	13 3/4" / 1 lbs 3 oz
Pan Fish	1st	Cole Lenaux (Rock Bass)	11 3/4" / 1 lb 2 oz
	2nd	Preston Leighton (Rock Bass)	11" / 11 oz
	3rd	Aria Canever (Rock Bass)	10 1/4" / 10 oz
Other	1st	Alivia Waligora (Pike)	31 3/4" / 5 lbs 11 oz
	2nd	Eli Justice (Catfish)	13" / 14 oz
Teen (age 13-16)			
Category	Place	Winner	Size/Weight
Bass	1st	Logan Fortier	17 1/4" / 2 lbs 11 oz
	2nd	Ehtan Mieredorf	19 1/4" / 2 lbs 4 oz
	3rd	Ethan Lenaux	15" / 1 lb 6 oz
Pan Fish	1st	Logan Fortier (Rock Bass)	11" / 14 oz
	2nd	Ethan Mieredort (Rock Bass)	10 1/4" / 13 oz
	3rd	Brook Fortier (Rock Bass)	9 1/4" / 10 oz
Other	1st	Logan Fortier (Pike)	20 1/2" / 1 lb 6 oz
Adults (ages 17 +)			
Category	Place	Winner	Size/Weight
Bass	1st	Tim Polakowski	19 1/4"/3 lbs 9 oz
	2nd	Greg Polakowski	18 1/2"/ 3 lbs 4 oz
	3rd	Mike Ostrowski	17" / 2 lbs 5 oz
Pike	1st	Tim Polakowski	33 1/4" / 7 lbs 8 oz
	2nd	Wadeana Grimshaw (womans)	23 3/4" / 2 lbs 14 oz
	3rd	Cody Grimshaw	24 1/4" / 2 lbs 9 oz
Big Fish			
Category	Place	Winner	Size/Weight
Men	1st	Tim Polakowski (Pike)	33 1/4" / 7 lbs 8 oz
Women	1st	Wadeana Grimshaw (Pike)	23 3/4" / 2 lbs 14 oz
Parent/Child	1st	Emmerson Zantop/Tim Polakowski (Pike)	??? / 7 lbs 8 oz

Thanks to Erik and Doug Smith, owners of HSP Imaging Inc., for supplying trophies and donations for daily prizes. Thanks to Joe Trollman for donations of daily prizes and fisherman specials.

Weed Control

Aquatic weed control treatments were provided by Aqua-Weed Inc. this year. Treatments were applied on May 30th and July 15th. More details are available on our website.

Goose Control

No Geese were removed from the lake this year due to the Avian Flu. We had insufficient signatures to apply for egg harvesting. If you are having Goose issues and are interested in continuing Goose control please be sure you have signed the consent form!

Purple Loosestrife Alert

Purple Loosestrife is in season! If you see and can access the invasive plant Purple Loosestrife (spikes of purple flowers), please cut off the blooms and bag them carefully in a plastic garbage bag. Tie up the bag and place it in your trash. One plant has millions of seeds that will fall if not removed. This invasive plant will choke out native plants. Please see our website for more information and pictures.

Water Quality

Testing for E. coli bacteria was performed on June 12th. Bacteria counts were less than the state of Michigan public health standard for total body contact recreation, such as swimming. Detailed test information and test locations can be found on our website.

Boat Ramp Use

1. There are no set open hours for the boat ramp. Please call one of the area trustees to make an appointment. **Leave a message if there is no answer. Please provide at least 24 hours advance notice** so we can schedule boats together when possible. Thank you.

2. In order to use the RLI boat ramp, our boat ramp use policy, consistent with our Bylaws is:

- Your RLI annual dues must be paid for all lots owned;
- Watercraft must be titled to Runyan Lake riparian property owners or their renters; (State and local law)
- Your state of Michigan watercraft registration must be current and displayed on the watercraft; (State law)
- A 2025 RLI boat sticker must be present on the watercraft;
- An RLI liability waiver should be on file.

3. Watercraft and trailers must be clean if coming from another water body to minimize risk of introducing invasive species. Please require any marina or trailer service you utilize to do the same. **This is State law effective 2019!** Please protect your lake!

Website

Have you checked out our website lately? There you will find current news, the social calendar, general lake information, classifieds, Lost & Found, sewer information, bylaws, photo galleries, and tons of other information, including links to the Heights and Point association websites. All this and more at www.runyanlakeinc.com.

E-mail

The fastest and cheapest way for us to get Runyan Lake community information to members is by e-mail. If you are not on our e-mail distribution list please send your e-mail address to runyanlakeinc@aol.com. We will not send you unnecessary messages, but will try to keep you informed. We will not share your e-mail address with anyone else.

Boat Ramp Access Help

In addition to the RLI Trustees you may also contact the following people to request access to the boat ramp:

Gatekeepers	
Name	Phone#
Gary Delamielleure	810-599-4507
Mike Ostrowski	810-287-6983
Tim Polakowski	810-965-6298
Mike Simeoni	248-514-3809
Jim Sporer	810-399-5669
Mark Waligora	810-445-8232

Sewer Leak or Alarm?

Call 517-546-0040, then press 1, then press 1 again.
Leave a clear and detailed message with your address and telephone number. You will be called back quickly.

Sheriff or Marine Sheriff

For emergencies call 911
For non-emergencies call 517-546-2440

Water safety is everyone's responsibility.

Let's keep Runyan Lake accident free!

**Enjoy the fall and Winter!
Have fun but be safe on the water!**

RLI Board of Trustees

(Elected each Fall at General Membership Meeting)

Area 1	- Runyan Lake Heights & Carmer Road, north to # 10051 John Fialka Secretary 248-320-7230 Dave Verbeke* Trustee 810-919-6982
Area 2	- Carmer Road, north from # 10065 & White Lake Road Kevin Johnson Vice Pres 810-629-4512 Andy Nester* Trustee 810-241-4144
Area 3	- Runyan Lake Point Pat Maynard* Trustee 810-629-9254 Mark Meisel President 810-354-5469
Area 4	- Runyan Lake Road, and & Walnut Shores Drive, south thru # 10320 Ann Barth Treasurer 248-797-3533 Dan Cypher* Trustee 810-730-9311
Area 5	- Walnut Shores Drive, south from # 10314, including Sleepy Shores Path Ivan Quinn* Trustee 810-444-9547 Rob Coffin Trustee 248-506-4583
At-Large	Tom MacDonald Trustee 810-845-1370

* Subject to elections at the Fall General Membership Meeting.



Please see the following pages for background information on a topic expected to be discussed during the Fall General Meeting.

***** The RLI Board has been asked to include the following information provided by the boat ramp committee appointed as a result of a motion during the 2025 Spring General Meeting. The statements and opinions shared below are informational only and are the sole opinion of the committee and not the RLI Board. *****

ALTERNATIVES TO THE CURRENT RAMP ACCESS PROCESS

During this past 2025 Spring General Meeting, a motion from the general membership was passed unanimously to “form a committee to evaluate alternatives to the current ramp access process with Tim Polakowski as chairperson and to include Board Representation”. This “Ramp Committee” consisting of Tim Polakowski, Michael Czarnota, Gregg Archambault, Kevin Johnson and Dan Cypher, has put together options to be presented to the Fall General Membership meeting on Friday, August 22. This document is presented to inform the membership about what will be proposed and may be voted on by the membership present or by proxy. An effort was made to look at several different options and not just focus on one preconceived idea. A good deal of time was spent reviewing the RLI Bylaws and considering Liability concerns. The Ramp Committee feels that there are several protections already in place to help protect RLI if the current ramp process were to be changed.

The Committee has prepared 3 options to present at the Fall General Membership Meeting.

Option 1 Installation of a card activated electronic gate system.

- The gate system is made up of three items:
 - Power provided by Consumers Energy
 - An automated gate/Cell controller with Cell service and access cards
 - Cellular Monitoring Camera

“Launch Administrators” are the individuals who control the gate access and monitor the use of the ramp using an app on their cell phone. They also can open the gate remotely and even disable a card if the need arises.

Each card holder would have their own distinct card number so specific individual usage is documented during each use and that data is stored in the system for review.

Each RLI member would be responsible for the usage of their card. Cards will initially be issued with members’ dues receipt and RLI stickers. RLI boat stickers will still be required. RLI members not comfortable with this new system may still request a gatekeeper to be there to open the gate for them.

Total One-Time Cost (Gate/controller, Cards, Cell Monitoring Camera and Electrical work and permits) Total \$17,673

Annual ongoing costs: Consumers electric power \$35/month, Cellular cell service \$50/month, Monitoring camera data storage \$15/month Total monthly costs \$100

Option 2 is a very inexpensive option that puts a resettable combination pad lock on the gate. RLI members then contact a Board Member or Gate Keeper who will check that they are a “Member in Good Standing” (Paid dues, etc.) and then give them the 4-digit code to use. The code can and will be changed often to help prevent misuse. The Member will also be directed to access the Ramp Notebook in the ramp stand to Log their information and date used. A camera system would be installed to monitor the use of the gate. The one-time cost of this solution would be \$350 for the battery powered solar camera, \$50 for 2 combination locks and a monthly cost of \$15 for the camera and its data storage.

Option 3 is leave the existing process in place. You will still need to contact a Board Member or Gate Keeper to set an appointment to be present to open the gate.

While we agree that any proposal, including the choice to stay with the existing system, has problems which we are sure will be highlighted in the accompanying article, we feel that Option 1 can be a workable/doable solution that provides RLI members access to the lake ramp when desired without the need to contact a board member or gate keeper to make an appointment to launch or remove their watercraft.

***** The RLI Board has been asked to include the above information provided by the boat ramp committee appointed as a result of a motion during the 2025 Spring General Meeting. The statements and opinions shared above are informational only and are the sole opinion of the committee and not the RLI Board. *****

RLI Board Preliminary Response to Ramp Committee Information

The RLI Board has not had sufficient time to fully review the information provided by the ramp committee, confirm some of their statements, confirm Livingston County and Tyrone Township would permit what some consider a commercial use in a single family residential area, nor has the RLI Board reviewed liability concerns and coverage with our insurer or attorney.

The RLI Board believes additional time is needed to adequately evaluate the options presented. The timing of the Fall General Meeting does not permit sufficient review time nor does it provide an opportunity for all affected RLI members to review the facts and opinions to result in information that allows for an informed vote as is being requested by the committee on this subject. The RLI Board recommends the committee's information be shared during the Fall General Meeting and within this newsletter but any vote should be deferred to a future general membership meeting to allow sufficient time for review and comment prior to a more detailed review with the membership followed by a vote.

As such, the RLI Board at this time simply offers the following concerns related to the ramp committee's options. The RLI Board needs additional time to evaluate these concerns to determine if they can be mitigated.

Option 1 Installation of a card activated electronic gate system.**RLI Board preliminary concerns:**

- Initial cost estimate for install is approximately \$20,000.00, resulting in a dues increase of approximately \$75 for Riparian members to fund the cost.
- Need to confirm permits from Livingston County and Tyrone Township would be issued.
- Administration of system will add many hours of labor to the dues payment process.
- Who will be the "launch administrators" and how do they fit within RLI's Bylaws?
- The liability coverage review referenced above was done by the committee, not RLI's insurer or our attorney.
- Liability coverage for "launch administrators".
- Ongoing annual costs for electricity, cellular service, and maintenance – approximately \$1200/yr.
- Reliable cellular service – service around Runyan Lake is spotty depending on provider, location, and weather.
- Loss of physical verification no invasive species are present on launched boats and trailers.
- No RLI witness for ramp related issues, damage, or traffic control.
- How to confirm the gate is closed and locked. Due to limited space the gate cannot be configured to automatically close as someone is backing their trailer down the ramp – it must be manually cycled to close. It is believed the gate must be left open when the ramp is in active use to allow for vehicle mobility in case there is an incident or accident.
- Card will be shared by some, potentially allowing launch use by members owing dues or by people not authorized to use the boat ramp or access Runyan Lake.
 - I forgot or lost my card but am at the ramp – can't you just let me in?
 - Next person in line requests gate be left open for them so no record of use since their card is not used.
- Process needed for lost or non-functional cards.
- No way to confirm which watercraft was launched and therefore cannot confirm the watercraft is owned a Runyan Lake Riparian. Requires a video monitoring system at additional cost and significant labor to review footage.
- How do we enforce and/or penalize unauthorized ramp use or sharing of cards?
- Bylaws amendments likely required.

Option 2 - resettable combination pad lock on the gate**RLI Board preliminary concerns:**

- Ramp use log book will not be filled out by everyone. Loss of RLI ramp use data.
- No way to confirm which watercraft was launched and therefore cannot confirm the watercraft is owned a Runyan Lake Riparian. Requires a video monitoring system at additional cost and significant labor to review footage.
- Loss of physical verification no invasive species are present on launched boats and trailers.
- No RLI witness for ramp related issues, damage, or traffic control.
- How to confirm the gate is closed and locked.
- Combination will be shared by some, potentially allowing launch use by members owing dues or by people not authorized to use the boat ramp or access Runyan Lake.
 - I forgot the combination. Neighbor, can you share it with me?
 - Next person in line requests gate be left open for them.
 - No way to confirm which watercraft was launched.
- How do we enforce and/or penalize unauthorized ramp use or sharing of cards?
- Liability needs to be reviewed with RLI insurer and attorney.

Option 3 is leave the existing process in place**RLI Board preliminary concerns:**

- Small number of complaints that a trustee or gatekeeper cannot be contacted.
 - The RLI Board has already added four (4) additional gatekeepers to mitigate this concern.
 - The RLI Board is proposing several “open gate” days during the spring and fall where members could arrive at the gate during a 4 – 6 hour period and launch their watercraft without a reservation if their dues are paid and a boat sticker is in place.



Runyan Lake Inc
PO Box 105
Fenton MI 48430



Newsletter & Notice
of General Meeting