

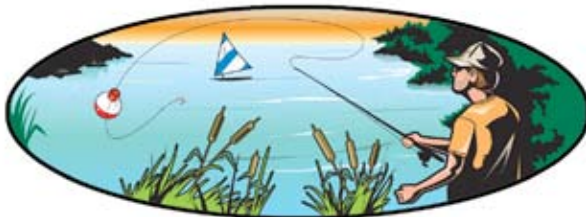
# **WELCOME TO HARDWOOD LAKE**

**Prescott, Michigan**



Hardwood Lake is located in southern Ogemaw County. This view shows the northeast section of the lake. The south shore is heavily forested.

## **Hardwood lake Property Owners Association**



[www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)

# Greetings from The Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association

The Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association was established over 25 years ago. The goal is to improve the Hardwood Lake area and help develop relationships with lake property owners.

Hardwood Lake covers 172 acres with an average depth of 12 feet. There are two deep holes in the lake with depths of 35 feet and 24 feet. There are about 100 cottages and year-round homes on the lake.

Hardwood Lake was originally developed for cottages starting in the 1930's. Most of the land was owned by a farmer named John Cook. Large white tents were set up and potential buyers were bussed in from Michigan cities to buy lots. The north side developed first, then the east and in recent years the west.



In 1994 the Hardwood Lake Improvement Board was established by

Richland and Logan Townships to resolve non-native weed issues. As part of this process a special assessment district was established in 1995 to provide funds for the project. The Lake Board hired Progressive Engineering in Grand Rapids to design and oversee the implementation of the weed control project.

Since 1995 Progressive has worked to decrease algae in the lake and continues to work to eliminate Eurasian Milfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed. These plants are not native to Michigan. Milfoil, left unchecked, ultimately can cover the entire lake and eliminate fish, plants, and the use of boats. This plant is especially bad as it spreads from fragmentation. Plant parts cut up from raking, boats, etc. will root into new plants causing it to spread quickly. Over the years Progressive has used herbicides, under DNR permits, to eliminate milfoil without harm to other plants and fish. The herbicides have changed as laws and environmental considerations have changed. There has been harvesting and

removal of biomass during the season as well.

With both the Lake Board and Progressive Engineering controlling the weeds and algae, Hardwood Lake has returned to a lake that has good fishing and is great for boating and swimming. If you are lucky you may see a Bald Eagle soaring over the lake or taking a fish. The continued lake weed control project is funded through a special assessment on property taxes.

The Richland Township Campground is located on the south shore of the lake. The campground has 40 sites, many have electric hookups. A pavilion is available for special occasions. A sanitary dump station is also available. The swimming beach is available to non-campers for a small fee.



The Department of Natural Resources has a public boat launch and dock located on the south shore near the campground.

Hardwood Lake observes state of Michigan and local boating regulations. High speed boating is allowed between 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. This allows quiet waters for fishing during the prime fishing times. All boat traffic travels counter-clockwise on the lake for skiing and other water related sports.

Property owners are encouraged to join the Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association. Dues cover annual newsletters and a website which keeps everyone informed of lake and community events along with progress of the lake project. Members are welcome to vote for officers at the association annual meeting held in July. Dues are \$15 annually.

Future projects being reviewed by the Hardwood lake Property Owners Association Board are Gypsy Moth spraying and additional fish stocking.

For more information contact:

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Annual dues of \$15 may be sent to Judy at the above address



Harvesting of non-native weeds is part of the ongoing lake weed control project.