



NEWS YOU CAN USE - July 4th Weekend 2021



We experience our second July 4th weekend under the FERC ordered drawdown of Secord Lake. As Secord Lake property owners, we love this Lake. Like you, we are frustrated with the situation. Like you, we look forward to the day our loved ones are enjoying all that Secord Lake offers as our boats tour the Lake.

We realize as we gather with family and friends, conversations will drift toward the Lake. We recognize people are irritated, disappointed, and perhaps confused. Sometimes having current information helps.

[Please feel free to forward this along to your family and friends - - all the material below is available to them]

In May 2021, the Four Lakes Task Force (FLTF), as the delegated authority for the counties, issued a 108-page written plan titled **FLTF Plan for the Restoration of the Four Lakes of Gladwin and Midland County**. This is a detailed, comprehensive plan to restore the four lakes. Our communications team created a 5-page summary focused on Secord Lake.

While 5 pages may be a lot to read, it is a summary of a 108-page report. These 5 pages provide clarity for the plan to restore the Secord Lake Dam including the scope of the required repairs, permitting, costs and timing. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the summary.

Since this report was issued, the **Michigan legislature introduced a series of bipartisan bills proposed to allocate \$500 Million for Dam Repair and Safety**. The series of bills will be worked in committee(s) over the summer by both the House and the Senate. The objective is the passage of these bills in the Fall 2021.

In one of the Dam Repair bills, the legislation recognizes the FLTF as the delegated authority. Language in the bill as introduced reads, in part: "The Michigan dam repair and improvement fund is created in the department to provide funds for the repair or replacement of the four lakes dams". "Four lakes dams" means the damaged or failed dams known as the Secord Dam, Smallwood Dam, Wixom Dam, or Sanford Dam". SB469 / HB4907

We are grateful to the Michigan legislature for introducing these funding bills. The FLTF fully supports their passage into law. The FLTF urges our elected officials to support the **allocation of \$225 million to the repair of the Secord, Smallwood, Edenville, and Sanford Dams** for the restorations of the four lakes in Midland and Gladwin counties. Securing this financial support from the State is designed to reduce the dam construction special assessment to lake property owners. You can learn more at [Understanding Michigan Dam Legislation](#)

You may be asking: What can my family, friends and I do to help make these bills a reality? How can I help get funding to restore the lakes?

You can write elected officials to express your appreciation for their help and your support for this legislation. We support the RestoreTheLakes initiative. This grass roots effort, started here on Secord, is designed to make letter writing easy. A website contains everything you need -- who to contact, email addresses, key points for your letter. There are sample letters as well for your review. Please visit: www.RestoreTheLakes.org regularly and start your letter writing/emailing to local, state, and federal legislators!

Have a safe and wonderful holiday weekend. Please visit Secord Lake Association at www.secordlakeassociation.org for more on the efforts to restore Secord Lake. You can sign up for email updates as they become available. We welcome new members to help focus our collective energy to restore Secord Lake.

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