



Summary of Secord Lake Association Meeting – SEPT 12, 2026

This recaps key headlines of our in-person September Member meeting.

Kim Carlson was introduced as the new President of the Secord Lake Association. Kim has been on the SLA Board for the past year, is the chair of the Golf Outing committee, engaged with Sponsors and is a full time resident on Secord Lake. Kim is actively involved in the local Secord community and is a board certified realtor. Kim brings new ideas and energy to the team.

SLA Board

Alternating 3 Year Terms

Term End Aug 2027	Term End Aug 2028	Term End Aug 2029
Paul Gorans	Mike Szuch	Heidi Schroth
Marti Drabing	Kim Carlson	Bob Wittig
Ken Wells	Jeff Sorensen	Open

We thank Heidi Schroth and Bob Wittig for stepping forward as they join our leadership team. Bob will continue to manage our website and Heidi agreed to serve as Secretary. Marti Drabing will continue as Treasurer.

The past leadership of Phil Dast (President) and Chuck Sikora (VP) since 2019 is celebrated and appreciated. We look forward to their continued participation within the Association and in their roles on the FLTF Board.

Kim recognized and celebrated the accomplishments of the SLA over the years. With the lake scheduled return this coming Spring, Kim asked Members for feedback and input, "What is next chapter for SLA?"

Many ideas were shared during this feedback session. Here is a summary of key inputs:

Areas of focus to prepare the lake for summer level	Future Focus / Opportunities
Continue the current FINAL COUNTDOWN clean up campaign with emphasis on 'neighbor helping neighbor'.	Goose Management Program
Remind DNR to clean up / prepare their two boat launches for Spring / Summer 2027	Partner with realtors and local businesses to provide SLA 'Welcome Wagon' information to new Secord property owners
Remind people to remove tree markers before winter ice (discussed Oct timing)	Provide lake navigation map to highlight sandbars / lakeside businesses
Remind people to remove tarps they may have over their sand beaches or bales of straw / hay to protect shoreline	Review and inform inland lake rules / regulations that apply to Secord
Can SLA put clean up tips in the Dec property tax bills as part of the township newsletter?	Watch for algae bloom on Secord learning from Sanford experience
Is there an opportunity to add a dock to the Clement Boat launch?	Secord Fishery - Continue DNR partnership for management and stocking / kids fishing contests or outings
	We realize there are / will be depth changes with summer lake level - an area on the North end of the West Branch was mentioned that was documented with FLTF in Oct 2023

We look forward to additional input from Members and our Secord Lake community.

The team agrees to take this input into account in the planning for the balance of 2026 and the 2027-28 season.

FUN-raisers

Secord Lake Association 6th Annual SLA GOLF SCRAMBLE

Date: Saturday, September 19th, 2026
 Location: GLADWIN HEIGHTS GOLF COURSE, 3551 M-61, Gladwin, MI 49624
 Time: 9:00 am SHOTGUN START (registration begins at 8:00am)

CHOOSE ONE

☐ Teams: \$400 (includes 4 golfers)
☐ Tee Box Sponsor: \$500 (includes 4 golfers, signage on the course at golf outing and chili cookoff)

Event Details (Share or Share):

18 HOLES GOLF W/CART
 DRINKS AND COFFEE @ SIGN-IN
 HOT DOG COMBO AT THE TURN
 DINNER AFTER GOLF
 CASH BAR

LOWEST DRIVE (MEN-LADIES)
 CLOSEST TO PIN (MEN-LADIES)
 DRINKS
 VEGAS HOLE
 RAFFLES

All proceeds go towards Secord Lake Improvement Projects

Name on Tee Box Sponsor sign: _____
 Captain Name: _____ Player Name: _____
 Email address: _____ Player Name: _____
 Contact Phone #: _____ Player Name: _____

Complete the registration form and email to kimcarlson@secordlake.org
 Scan the QR code to send your \$400 OR \$500 payment. No refunds within 30 days of event.

Questions? Contact Kim Carlson / email: kimcarlson@secordlake.org text/call (313)732-5788

To learn more about the **Golf Outing** -

<https://www.secordlakeassociation.org/2026-golf-outing>

and Secord Lake Eagles AERIE #4121

Secord Lake Association *Present...*

THE 5TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 2026

★ 1 PM – 4 PM ★

Secord Lake Eagles
 (Open to non-members for the day)

FOLLOWED BY MIKE ODETTE UNTIL 8PM!

PROCEEDS RAISED WILL SUPPORT SECOND LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

50 / 50 RAFFLE CASH BAR AVAILABLE CHINESE AUCTION / RAFFLE

WE ARE CHANGING IT UP: ONLY RED CHILI THIS YEAR!

Registration (FREE) is limited to 20 entries
\$10 Entry Fee to Sample and Judge Chili!

Visit our web page to register your chili or a silent auction item:
<https://www.secordlakeassociation.org/2026-chili-cook-off>
 or scan QR codes below

CHILI REGISTRATION AUCTION DONATION

For additional information or questions, please contact PAUL GORANS at 313.534.5873

To learn more about the **Chili Cook Off** –

<https://www.secordlakeassociation.org/2026-chili-cook-off>

NEWS FLASH

We already have 11 Chili's registered.
 Room for just 9 more! Please don't wait as we expect all 20 entries again this year.

The Secord Lake Association is a non-profit focused on Secord Lake for generations to come. If you are a Member, thank you. If you want to become Member, we welcome you.

<https://www.secordlakeassociation.org/membership>

Secord Lake Association

OUR MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Lake Improvement Projects
 Remove Nuisance Trees
 Maintain Sandbars
 Secord Fishery
 Clement Boat Launch
 Bourret Boat Launch
 Secord Fire Rescue
 Secord Eagles Dockside
 Goose Management
 Quake on the Lake Fireworks

Advocacy to Restore Secord
RESTORE THE LAKES

Secord Social
 Secord Dam Pontoon Tour
 Golf Outing
 Chili Cook Off
 Lake Improvement Projects
 Helping Hands
 Monthly Meetings in Season
 Fireworks

Secord Retake Our Lake

Membership \$25 YR
Family Membership \$35 YR
 Membership today is good until end of August next year!
www.SecordLakeAssociation.org

This coming year, thanks to the generous donations of Member, Sponsors, and supporters, we have an operating budget for the next 12 months dedicating \$54,000 toward Secord Lake improvement projects.

Membership, Sponsorships, and support for fund-raising events make this possible.

Please Help Support **SECOND LAKE ASSOCIATION**
 by Donating to Our **GOLF OUTING AND CHILI COOK OFF**

We are asking for donations of:

LOTTERY TICKETS of any denomination & **GIFT CARDS**

You can also access our **Amazon Wish List** via website <https://a.co/00Ns4U> or by using the bar code.

Donations accepted THROUGH SEPTEMBER 13TH

Please contact **Heidi Schroth** Treasurer heidi@secordlake.org (734) 645-2895 or you can contact any board member.

BOARD MEMBERS:
 Phil Dent • Paul Gorans
 Jeff Sorenson • Mike Sorech
 Chuck Skora • Mark Strabing
 Ron Wells • Kim Carlson

— Thank you for supporting our lake community! —

To learn **how you can help support either or both events**, please check out our Amazon wish list – you can order and have the items shipped to us.

[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Donations of gift cards and scratch off lottery tickets are welcomed as they make great items for prize or auction baskets.

FLTF UPDATE

To read Frequently Asked Questions published by the Association [Secord Lake FAQs July 28 2026](#)
There is now a [Secord Dam](#) update page available on the FLTF website.

FLTF Sept Construction Update – 9/10/2026

SECORD DAM



As the schedule moves into the fall months, our focus is on installing crest gate components so both gates can be commissioned simultaneously. Bay 1 crest gate installation is nearing completion with crews moving into bay 2 to resume installation of the crest gate in early September. Crews completed several significant items this past month:

- All training walls in the primary spillway and the low level outlet
- Control building roof
- Upstream slope riprap final grading and embankment crest earthwork on the right and left embankments

Photo From MONDAY, SEPT 14th
Installation Resumes of GATE 2



FLTF Update

- **Fill date remains April 15, 2027.**

- Substantial Completion Date Nov 2026.

- In July FLTF reported, if the numbers hold, there could be a capital assessment **reduction of up to 15% for property owners** after the construction project is completed.

There is a Secord Dam construction page available on the FLTF website.



Last month, there were concerns raised regarding the gates and the water level at Secord is not required to pause at winter level as the lake is filled.



- Secord Lake **has already been elevated**, including above winter level
- Does not require a **two week pause for embankment monitoring** as it already occurred.
- **Gates are tested in a number of stages**, including wet testing using stop logs.
- The **adjustment required to Gate 2** is a minor setback that is not likely to impact lake fill to begin April 15, 2027.
- The gate **was sent back to the manufacturer** as it is the **more practical** method to get the gate properly aligned.
- The **gate manufacturer accepted responsibility** for cost related to the adjustment.
- Dam structure meets dam safety requirements including those as outlined in the June 2021 letter from EGLE. Various engineers, including third party reviews, EGLE and dam safety experts, have been engaged in the process since the beginning.

Saturday morning, Phil and Chuck shared the components making up GATE 2 were completed and making their way back to the Secord Dam site.

Monday, construction crews began to reassemble Gate 2.

FLTF indicates both gates will be commissioned at the same time with plans to have the dam substantially complete in November with lake fill to summer level to begin April 15, 2027.

There were additional questions regarding the gates that will require us to learn more from FLTF. We look forward to the next FLTF informational webinar on October 7th where they will provide construction updates for each of the dams.

Retake Our Lake – THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

For the vast majority, Secord Lake property owners have participated in the **Retake Our Lake** initiative since its inception in 2022.

As we move toward October, there will be about 6 months before April 2027 Lake fill.

The **FINAL COUNTDOWN** provides guidance on what Secord Lake property owners can do to prepare for summer lake level.

- 1) Prepare Your Lake Front
- 2) Help Your Neighbors
- 3) Pick Up Anything That FLOATS
- 4) Remove Temporary Piers
- 5) Secure Docks, Piers, Hoists, Lifts, Boats, etc.

In addition, a proactive plan to address Spring FLOATERS is being created with more details to be shared as we move into Fall.

Helping Hands is available for neighbors in need.



FALL LAKEBED CLEAN UP

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN to April 2027
Summer Lake Level

ACT THIS FALL & WINTER • Spring thaw / rain can raise Secord quickly.

CLEAR NUISANCE VEGETATION

Cut and remove nuisance trees, weeds and cattails now or when ice is safe.

REMOVE ANYTHING THAT FLOATS

Pick up logs, branches and loose debris. Contact the Association if you need help.

PULL TARPS FROM THE LAKEBED

Once water returns, removal will be nearly impossible. Remove bales of straw / hay.

REMOVE TEMPORARY DOCKS

Take temporary structures out before Spring.

SECURE EQUIPMENT

Docks, piers, hoists, lifts and boats.



CLEAR VEGETATION



REMOVE FLOATERS



REMOVE TARPS



REMOVE TEMPORARY DOCKS

PLEASE MANAGE YOUR SHORELINE

HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS
Share tools. Lend a hand.

FINISH THE JOB BEFORE SPRING THAW

SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com • www.SecordLakeAssociation.org

Questions or need help moving debris? Contact the Association.

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN



1) Prepare Your Lake Front
2) Help Your Neighbors
3) Pick Up Anything That FLOATS
4) Remove Temporary Piers
5) Secure Your Docks, Piers, Hoists, Lifts, Boats

Summer Level Will Come Quick in April

FALL PLAN

- **Individuals** - Cut cattails, invasive species, and tree seedlings as low as possible in late summer/fall, when they enter dormancy and can't secure oxygen and store nutrients for spring regrowth.
- **Individuals** - We need volunteers to mark shoreline "possible" tree / stump floaters. (Use twine around the debris and a bottle or part of a swim noodle. If the debris floats in the spring it can be easily identified and removed. If it does not float the twine will rot and the bottle or noodle will safely float down stream.)
- **Individuals & Group Activity** - Last week of September / first week of October remove all current stump markers except any shoreline debris marked with a small swim noodle or bottle as noted above.

Ken Wells led a discussion regarding what property owners can do NOW as we move into Fall.

Spring FLOATERS are a forward-looking concern when the water rises this Spring. Property owners are reminded to remove anything that can float this Fall.

Volunteers are marking potential FLOATING logs with a swim pool noodle affixed with biodegradable twine. The idea is if the log floats, the pool noodles will be easy to spot to help in retrieval.

There was a discussion regarding the potential safety hazards of the driveway markers random people used to mark trees in the boating lanes the past summer. The recommendation is for people to remove those the first part of October.

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN – Winter / Spring Plan

FEBRUARY - Final Opportunity for in the water debris clean up

- **Individuals** - Safe ice provides the opportunity to cut cattails and invasive weeds. Cut any trees sticking significantly above the ice.
- **Group Activities** - We plan to coordinate workdays with the Eagles Club as a home base.
- **SLA** - Secure final approval on proposed drop off sites, communicate strategy in detail to community, ensure drop off sites are marked.

APRIL / MAY – Floater Focus

- **Individuals** - Identify floaters, if possible safely tow them and secure them at the drop off sites, or report their approximate location to SLA.
- **SLA / Volunteers / Business Partners** - Retrieve them, tow them and secure them an identified location, remove them.
- **FLTF** - Dam Safety Boom / floater disposal site established FLTF managed.

ASKED OF THE COMMUNITY TO MINIMIZE SPRING BOATING RISKS

- Proactively mark potential FLOATERS now with twine and pool noodles or bottles.
- We realize the State land will provide a challenge with FLOATERS.
- We will need volunteers with Boats in the water in April / May to pull this off.
- More details as the plan comes together.



**FLTF disposal area
on West side of dam
where concrete
plan was located.**

Ken shared a plan to address spring FLOATERS is being finalized between the SLA, FLTF, Townships, County, Secord Lake Marina – On The Water, Secord Hoist Service and Oak Ridge Tree Service.

FLTF has determined the area to the West side of the dam will be a collection site for floating debris. FLTF will erect a safety boom in front of the dam to allow debris to be caught and removed.

The plan is to create additional debris drop sites along the lake and solicit the services of volunteers and professionals to move debris to the FLTF site.

More details come as things are finalized. If you want to volunteer to help, please contact us at SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com



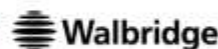
Ken thanked the Helping Hands volunteers for the work they have completed to date. Most

of us have seen photos on Facebook of work over the summer as we assist our neighbors that need a hand. Special thanks to Ken for leading this effort and to the entire TEAM: John Beck, Steve and Kim Carlson, Brad and Kit Carlson, Bob Boroff, Phil Dast, Paul Gorans, Paul Hutchins, Dan James, Alan Ogg, Doug Proctor, Dave Rymas, Dennis Schroth, Adam and Heidi Schroth, Chuck and Sandy Sikora, Steve Slaga, Jerry Slusarski, Jeff Sorensen, Bruce and Susan Townley, Ken Wells, Bob Wittig. Our apology if we missed someone.

2026/2027



SPONSORS



COPPER Sponsors

Kim Butcher Agency-Farm Bureau Ins

TEE BOX Sponsors

The Dast Family
The Hodge Family
Green Cross Landscaping
Rose Pest Control
Schroth & Wells Family
VertiBlock

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Bryan Besaw – KW Paint Creek
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CT Lounge – Toms Family
Marti Drabing – RE/MAX RiverHaven
Elk Lake Bar & Grill
Gladwin Family Pharmacy
Green Cross Landscape & Sprinklers
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Kearns Mechanical, LLC

Maverick Ford
Morse Clark Furniture Co
North Country Outfitters
North Star Title Company
PLM Lake & Land Management Corp
Secord Lake Eagles Aerie #4121
Lori Harrison – State Farm Insurance
Superior Title & Settlement Agency
Tectra Epoxy Systems
West Branch Furniture Outlet
Wildwood Mercantile
Woodland Diner
The Young Family

Should you have additional questions, or want to help → SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com

Our last meeting for this season is scheduled for Saturday, Oct 10th at 10 AM – Secord Township Hall.

SLA Golf Outing – Saturday, Sept 19

SLA Chili Cook Off – Saturday, Oct 17



Visit us at www.SecordLakeAssociation.org