



# THE OAKLEAF

MARCH 2022

## ANNUAL MEETING 2022

Oakwood Lakes' annual meeting was held on Monday, February 21, virtually via Zoom. There were 24 properties logged on. The slides from the meeting are on our website.

Two trustees were re-elected for three-year terms: David Volpe and Rich Schneider. Steve Deringer has decided to retire from the board and Rick Scheffler moved out of the area, so we welcomed Mike Hartshorne and Derek Minner as new members of our Board of Trustees.

We reviewed the projects and events from 2021, including the lily pad treatment, the lake discussion & cleanup efforts, the food trucks and the neighborhood survey.

Finances and member statistics were reviewed, and a proposal to increase our fees, starting in 2023, was approved. See more info on page 2 and the website.

We had discussions on projects to be done this year, detailed on page 3.

For more information, questions, concerns or ideas, as always, please contact any of the trustees, all listed on the back page.

*Thanks Steve Deringer & Rick Scheffler & Welcome Mike Hartshorne and Derek Minner!*

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### UPCOMING

- \* Lake Lowering-3/12 to 3/27
- \* Annual invoices mailed—payments due March 31
- \* Egg Hunt—week of April 10
- \* Beach Clean-up—Sun. 4/24  
⇒ See list inside page 3

### Reminders

- ⇒ Please make party requests as early as possible, especially for the late June graduation season. Get the form on our website [here](#).
- ⇒ Check out [Oakwood Lakes Social](#), our social Facebook page.

### KEEP IT CLEAN

Please make sure you pick up after your pooch. They leave it, you retrieve it!  
Please dispose your used masks and other PPE properly.

## PROTECT OUR LAKE AND PINELANDS

Please do not put leaves or debris into the lake, as it disturbs the ecology of the water and will eventually cause expensive cleanup. Take advantage of the township's collection and make sure landscapers and tree contractors take debris for proper disposal .

Please read the [Pinelands Ecology Brochure](#) on our website, or in the back of the Oakwood Directory. It has good information on how to protect and maximize the beauty of our region regarding fertilizers, indigenous plantings, etc.

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## ABOUT TREES

Please help keep our roads & power lines safe by checking your trees and removing any that are leaning significantly.

Also, lakefront residents need to remove any trees hanging on the lake from their property.

Corner residents are urged to trim shrubs and trees for visibility of both signs and oncoming traffic.

## FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ◆ Financial and Membership Statistics were reviewed.
- ◆ Discussion on fees focused on several factors for recommending a fee increase, to \$300 (senior \$210), to start in 2023:
  - ◇ Our income is inadequate to cover our expenses, and costs are rising
  - ◇ Our reserve for large expenses is far less than best practices indicate
  - ◇ Comparable communities are all way higher than Oakwood (averaging \$361 per year to our \$225)
  - ◇ Oakwood fees have remained flat for 12 years despite additional costs
  - ◇ All of our property values depend on our having a well-maintained community
  - ◇ Voting was multiple choice, for increasing in 2023, gradually increasing over 3 years, or cost cutting with no increase
  - ◇ 86% voted for the 2023 increase, 14% for the gradual increase, 0% for no increase
  - ◇ The rate is still lower than comparable neighborhoods
  - ◇ More detail is on the meeting slides on our website
- ◆ Don't forget, if you are 62 or older, you get the senior discount. Let us know!

## 2022 EVENT SCHEDULE

- ◆ Lake Lowering                      March 12 thru March 27  
    *—Opportunity for residents to clean up leaves, lakebed*
- ◆ Egg Hunt                              Week of April 10, date TBA
- ◆ Beach Clean-Up                      Sunday, April 24, Noon
- ◆ Summer Picnic                      Saturday, June 25
- ◆ Steak by the Lake                      Saturday, Sept. 10
- ◆ Yard Sale                                Saturday, Oct. 15
- ◆ Winter Luminaries                      Friday, Dec 24

## 2021 COMPLETED PROJECTS

- ◇ Lily pad treatment
- ◇ Distributed Muckaway for removal of built-up sediment in lake
- ◇ Lake areas cleaned up
- ◇ Community survey
- ◇ Solar lights added at the neighborhood signs
- ◇ Grill covers installed in BBQ area
- ◇ Sign at Ramblewood touched up (thanks to the Adams)
- ◇ New boat ramp lock installed

## 2022 PROPOSED PROJECTS

### Projects proposed for 2022 include:

- ◇ Weed treatment if required—to be monitored during the seasons for the various species of vegetation
- ◇ Beaver remediation
- ◇ Lily Pad treatment
- ◇ Distribute MuckAway to remove built-up sediment in lake (pick up at Beach Clean-Up)
- ◇ Little Library to be installed with the help of Scout Troop 26
- ◇ New signage for the beach area to consolidate and replace the old faded signs (most of the signs are regulatory requirements)
- ◇ Replacement of some picnic tables

## BEACH CLEAN-UP

**Beach clean-up is scheduled for Sunday, April 24 starting at noon.**

**Old clothes, rakes and gloves will be the order of the day. With enough hands, we should be finished in a few hours.**

⇒ *Muckaway will be available for pick-up—bring a plastic coffee container or 1 or 2 one-gallon zip lock bags.*

### Beach Clean-up Task List to include:

- ◇ Inspect playground to ensure all bolts secure and surfaces in good condition, replenish sand in drop zones.
- ◇ Trim the vegetation along the side of the beach.
- ◇ Rake leaves out of the lake to the side of the dock.
- ◇ Organize inside of shed.
- ◇ Check the basketball hoops for repair /replacement.
- ◇ Clear brush around boat rack

## HELP TO MAINTAIN OUR WATER QUALITY

- ◆ **Please do not feed waterfowl**, including ducks. It increases resident populations of geese/ducks, increases the water bacteria count and is illegal. Reattach the geese fence along the shoreline before you leave Oakwood Beach.
- ◆ Physically remove organic matter and muck along our shoreline such as mud, leaves, plants and tree limbs when the lake is lowered.
- ◆ **Reduce the use of fertilizers and pesticides to what can be absorbed by the plants the chemicals are supporting.**
- ◆ Keep leaves, fecal matter, and organic matter out of the lake, off the streets, and away from storm sewer inlets.
- ◆ Geese dislike visual barriers between the lake and feeding areas. Vegetate the edge of lakefront properties with tall grasses and wildflowers because geese like mown lawns. If fences are used in lieu of plants, they should be two (2) feet high.

**MARCH 2022**

Oakwood Community Assn  
c/o 38 Red Oak Trl  
Medford, NJ 08055

**Want to volunteer to help  
the community?**

**We have several openings  
for Committee leaders, and  
always welcome extra  
hands and new ideas.**

**Contact any of the trustees  
to volunteer or get more  
information.**



Visit us on the web:  
[oakwoodlakesassociation.com/](http://oakwoodlakesassociation.com/)



# THE OAKLEAF

## OAKWOOD TRUSTEES

President	David Volpe (609) 923-0552
Lake Coordinator	Rich Schneiderei (609) 654-2755
Secretary	Shana Perrone (856) 625-3879
Treasurer	Mary Ann Brookes (609) 953-4035
Trustees	Doug Emenecker (609) 654-4163
	Mike Hartshorne (609) 654-6881
	Bill McGehrin (609) 654-2892
	Derek Minner (856) 375-7106
	Brett Pickus (609) 929-1537

## OAKWOOD COMMITTEE LEADS

Beach Clean Up	- David Volpe/Shana Perrone
Boat Rack	- David Volpe
Easter Egg Hunt	- Nina Cugini
Picnic Schedules	- David Volpe
Steak by the Lake	- Shana Perrone
Summer Picnic	- Karelis Pickus
Welcome Committee	- Liz Allan
Winter Luminaries	- Michele Brodecki
Yard Sale Committee	- Ted Salkin