

# Welcome to Susin Lake!

Revised May 12, 2016

## **Community Facts:**

Our community is located in Springfield Township, Oakland County, with a Clarkston mailing address and is part of the Clarkston Community School District.

## **Susin Lake Organizations:**

The Susin Lake Association (SLA) is a Michigan non-profit organization whose primary focus is on maintaining a safe and healthy lake. The SLA can also sponsor social event and activities such as boat parades, fishing contests, etc. All officers of the SLA are volunteers. See the website more information about the SLA and the officers.

The Susin Lake Improvement Board (SLIB) is a chartered government agency that is formed to assess property owners that reside in the Susin Lake Special Assessment District. Property owners are assessed for the purposes of weed control, dam repair and maintenance, and other activity to maintain the health of the lake. The SLIB is run by a board of directors who are all volunteers. All property owners residing in this special assessment district are members of the SLA.

## **Lake Access and Usage:**

There are two types of properties in the special assessment district:

- Lakefront properties - There are about 90 properties located with frontage on the lake
- Backlot properties – the backlot properties are located in the Harbortowne subdivision and also south of the lake, between the lake and Davisburg Road.

The two classification of properties are assessed different amounts, with the lakefront properties assessed at a higher rate.

Lakefront property owners may install docks and launch boats in accordance with the applicable Michigan laws. The boat launch may only be used by lakefront owners. See the Boat Launch page on the website for more information.

Backlot property owners have deed restrictions that limit their access to the lake – refer to your deed for details.

The beach located in the Harbortowne subdivision is for the use of Harbortowne residents only and may not be used for launching boats. Consult the Harbortowne Association regulations for more details.

## **Lake Safety:**

Our number one concern is lake safety! Remember that everyone on the lake is your neighbor and respectfully bring any safety concerns to their attention.

Because Susin Lake is very small at under 50 acres, there is not room for very many boats that want to pull tubes, ski, and fish all at the same time. Many residents remember the accident on Dixie Lake that

claimed the life of a young girl riding a PWC. Due to potential safety issues, special rules apply to PWCs. See the PWC page on our website for detail. If you ride a PWC, be aware that there is no enough clearance to legally run behind the island when another boat is in the area “behind” the island.

Any more than 3 high speed boaters (tubing, skiing, etc.) on the lake will quickly turn into an unsafe environment. There just isn’t enough room to safely maneuver around fallen riders. When the lake looks crowded please act safely and wait for an existing boater to take a break.

The island poses special challenges – there is not enough room for more than one boat towing a rider to legally (or safely) pass another. When you are towing a rider, please avoid going behind the island when another boat is there.

### **Weed Control:**

Chemical treatments are used periodically to control aquatic weeds in Susin Lake. Some of these weeds are invasive species that were transported to Susin Lake from other lakes – see the Invasive Species page of the website for more information on these.

Chemical treatment is currently the only practical method of weed control available to Susin Lake. Some nearby lakes use a “harvester” to cut and remove the weeds from the lake. To do so requires lake front property to store the harvester and other equipment required for removal. Note that harvesting weeds comes with challenges also – some weed species will spread even further when small cuttings escape from the harvesting equipment.

### **Lake Facts:**

- About 49 acres of surface area, average depth around 8 feet
- Headwaters of the Clinton River, which empties into Lake Saint Clair
- Formed in 1945 by Cora Susin with an earthen dam (fragile!)
- Around 90 lakefront homes
- Many natural springs
- One very shallow area that likes to eat propellers – Caution!