

## **UPDATE ON LAKE RESTORATION INITIATIVE, AUGUST 2009**

In the last up-date from the Joint Townships Paw Paw Lake Advisory Committee we informed interested members about the 5 RIP's "requests for proposals" on a lake aquatic vegetation management plan. Those proposals are coming in.

Two companies (Spicer and J.F. New) asked if the committee would sit down with them so they could get a better insight into our expectations for a comprehensive lake restoration plan for Paw Paw Lake. That meeting took place on July 20 where we shared our major concerns (weeds and green water.) We questioned the company representatives, Larry Protasiewicz, senior Project Manager for Spicer and Stu Kogge, Senior Wetland/Aquatic Biologist of JFNew, Inc. concerning what they can do for Paw Paw Lake.

Spicer and JFNew, Inc wish to work together to prepare a comprehensive management plan that will balance water quality, vegetation control and dredging as one plan. This proposal needs to be reviewed by the committee and possibly be sent on to the Township Boards

On the dredging issue, the committee has many questions: How much of the lake bottom is covered with "muck?" How thick is the muck, what material makes up the muck? And, of course, the critical question: Would dredging result in a sufficient nutrient reduction to impact water quality based on the cost of dredging? Put another way "Would it be worth it?"

Again, before we can develop a lake management plan, we need to have additional studies completed to give us the information upon which to make the decisions. We will be asking the two townships to approve the costs of the assessments at their August meetings.

Also a second up-date meeting was held at the Watervliet Township Hall on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Our next informational meeting will be held on August 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Coloma Township Hall.

The committee is anxious to keep interested parties informed. If you know of anyone who would like to receive these up-dates, they may request to be added to the email list by writing [mspessard@comcast.net](mailto:mspessard@comcast.net).