

Twin Lake Property Owners Association

PO Box 807, Lewiston, MI ,49756

*"TLPOA Making a difference in the life
of our Lakes and our Community"*

September 6, 2023

Officers

- **President**

Tom
Conquest

Albert Township Board, Zoning Administrator, ZBA
Albert Township
4360 Hanson St.
Lewiston, MI 49756

- **Vice President**

Pat Kish

Board Members and Administrator,

- **Treasurer**

Wendy
Huston

We are writing as the Board of Directors of the Twin Lakes Property Owners Association to express our strong support for the enforcement of Albert Township's Greenbelt Ordinance.

- **Secretary**

Bill Siegrist

The primary purpose of the Greenbelt Ordinance is preserve, "the existing quality of the lakes and streams in Albert Township". The Greenbelt Ordinance with its focus on protecting the immediate shoreline of our lakes, plays a huge role in achieving this purpose.

Board

Members

John Jackson
Tim
Manganello
Judd Wellard
Pete Stephens
Tom Page
Colin Gibbings
Alex Goodall

The vegetation strip section of the ordinance is of particular importance. The purpose of this section is to maintain, "natural vegetation strips to along waterfronts to filter out nutrients and sediment from surface run-off, to keep pollutants from entering the waters, prevent erosion, and help maintain cool water temperature through shading."

The primary purpose of the TLPOA is, "to keep our lakes healthy." Our purposes are totally in sync - to preserve the existing, healthy quality of East and West Twin Lakes.

In addition to the environmental importance, healthy East and West Twin Lakes are important to the economic well being of Albert Township and the Lewiston business community.

Consultants

Bonnie Page
Dominic Manzi

The key to preserving the health of our lakes is upholding and enforcing the Greenbelt Ordinance, including the vegetation strip restrictions. Enforcing the Greenbelt Ordinance not only helps prevent the erosion of the lakeshore, but also contributes to a quality environment for all the wild life and insects that are crucial for a healthy lake ecosystem and fishery.

Enforcement is something that only the Township Board, Zoning Administrator and Zoning Board of Appeals can do.

As new projects and developments that violate the Greenbelt Ordinance continue to increase, it is imperative that we all remain committed to the principles outlined in the ordinance to ensure that our lakes maintain their charm, ecological diversity and quality of life.

We appreciate the permitting process that is in place prior to construction within the greenbelt. However, one of the major problems is that people do not apply for permits. This prevents the

variance process from working out any type of balance between property rights and the health of the lakes. As a lake association, we will continue to educate the lakeshore community on the importance of Albert Township's ordinances and obtaining the proper permits for any lakeshore developments. We will also support the Greenbelt Ordinance during any particular permitting process in the interest of maintaining the high quality of our lakes.

We do understand that enforcing the Greenbelt Ordinance, and in particular the vegetation strip restrictions, is sometimes difficult to do. There is a strong pull to allow people to improve their property as they wish. However, it is important to remember that the lakes are a common area to be used for the benefit of all. This requires that all lakefront owners recognize that they have a responsibility that goes beyond their personal property. Enforcing the Greenbelt Ordinance is the only way to preserve the quality of the lakes for both current and future generations.

We respectfully urge you to take all the necessary steps to ensure the effective enforcement of Albert Township's Greenbelt Ordinance, including the vegetation strip restrictions. Your dedication to upholding this ordinance will not only demonstrate your commitment to the environment, but also show that Albert Township is forward-thinking and values it's heritage and the long term well-being of it's residents and natural resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to seeing Albert Township continue to flourish as a model of responsible development and environmental stewardship.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Twin Lakes Property Owners Association.

Tom Conquest, President
Wendy Huston, Treasurer
Bill Siegrist, Secretary
John Jackson, Director
Tim Manganello, Director
Pat Kish, Director
Judd Wellard, Director
Pete Stephens, Director
Tom Page, Director
Alex Goodall, Director
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