

Environmental Committee -- Mission Statement

While serving under the direction of the HLPOA Board, act as a point of contact for HLPOA members and other interested parties. To act as a coordinating group to approve dedicated funds for various programs to maintain or improve the water quality and associated environmental factors affecting Higgins Lake.

Key Initiatives for 2017 – 2018

1. **To actively recruit** HLPOA member and non-member volunteers to work with the committee and add to the committee's knowledge base and diversity.
2. **To define a Base Line Assessment Plan** for Higgins Lake, evaluating methodology, cost and timing for projects to be approved by the HLPOA board. There is currently no credible data available regarding the near shore waters and lake bottom environment, and only anecdotal evidence concerning members' feelings about changes in the lake through the years. The committee feels it is important to obtain a current scientifically credible baseline of the near shore environment to effectively address and measure future efforts to improve the situation. Seeking funds specifically to collect and organize this baseline data has been deemed appropriate by the HLPOA board.
3. **To encourage and support** the efforts of the Swimmers Itch Solutions LLC on Higgins Lake and the Michigan Swimmer's Itch Partnerships (MISIP) ongoing efforts to control the swimmer's itch parasite. This initiative coincides with the resolution passed at the July 18, 2015 Annual Meeting by the members.
4. **To encourage and support** the lake levels established by the Roscommon County Circuit Court in 1926 and 1982 and work to counter any actions taken to remove or alter the Cut River dam or those lake levels in any manner. This initiative coincides with the resolution passed at the July 20, 2013 Annual Meeting by the members.
5. **To assist and develop** informational programs and communications that will help property owners do things on their own such as landscaping, septic maintenance and erosion remediation techniques that will benefit the lake in areas under their own personal control.
6. **To assist and develop** communication with organizations that compliment HLPOA's efforts and to share beneficial aspects with our membership by our participation to protect, preserve and enhance the quality of Higgins Lake and its surrounding watershed.