



Alcona County Road Commission

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Cedar Lake Level Control Structure

Dear Resident:

On behalf of the Cedar Lake - Lake Level District, I wanted to share this information with you in response to some allegations related to the Cedar Lake structure “leaking.”

As you may know, Alcona and Iosco Counties are responsible under a circuit court order to maintain the normal level of Cedar Lake. In 2019, the Cedar Lake – Lake Level District held an assessment hearing to collect assessments to, among other things, finance a new structure (dam) on Cedar Lake to maintain the normal level of the lake in accordance with a circuit court order. Construction of the new structure is complete.

Some have noticed water around the new structure and have alleged that the structure is “leaking.” Although there is water near the structure, the source of the water is from existing groundwater and not the dam. I have confirmed this with an engineering firm retained by the Lake Level District, and property owners may recall from previous meetings that this groundwater has existed in the area even before the new structure.

Likewise, lower lake levels on the lake this spring are due to significantly less than average rainfall for the refilling period (and not due to a dam leak). The structure is designed to maintain the legally established lake level and provide relief during large flow events. The design included use of permanent steel sheet pile for water control during construction. This also provides the means to regulate the flow of surface water to maintain the level. Precipitation is still needed to provide the proper inflow into the lake to raise and maintain the lake level.

The public also should be aware that construction of the new structure required permitting from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (“EGLE”). Thus, EGLE is familiar with the new structure as constructed.

I appreciate the concerns brought to my office about the lake level control structure. Both Counties are working hard to maintain the lake level pursuant to the court order. I hope the above helps clarify any misconceptions about the structure. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (989)736-8168

Sincerely,

Jesse Campbell