

Hello Hess Lake Residents,

Hess Lake needs a lot of TLC. Many lake issues have been identified by the experts. I would encourage everyone to work together to resolve our lake issues. Consider joining the Hess Lake Improvement Association and attending the monthly meetings. In addition, consider attending the three Hess Lake Improvement Board Meetings in White Cloud.

Hess Lake Improvement Association Website.

www.hesslake.com

Listed below are a number of Hess Lake issues identified by the experts from 1982 to 2020. Some of the issues listed below can only be resolved by the property owner, not the lake board. In addition, some issues will only be able to be resolved by the lake board with support of the lake people. I would encourage all Hess Lake property owners to learn about the ecology of our lake. I created a Hess Lake Website in June of 2018 for the residents. The purpose of the website is to provide educational materials on the ecology of a lake. Consider reading information under the following tabs in the following order. 1. Ecology of Lake Tab, 2. Shoreline Guidelines Tab, 3. Lake News Tab, 4. Lake Foam/Algae/Weeds Tab, 5. Septic Systems Tab, 6. Engineering Studies Tab, 2020 Progressive AE Study, 2019 Dr. Jude Study, read the 1982 Edmands Study first for a good baseline.

www.hesslake.org

Hess Lake Issues Identified By The Experts from 1982-2020

1. Too much phosphorus coming into the lake from Wheeler Drain. Responsibility, Lake Board
2. Too much phosphorus coming into the lake from AlgerDrain/Creek. Responsibility, Lake Board
3. Possible phosphorus coming from septic systems via groundwater. Responsibility, Lake Residents
4. Very few native natural aquatic plants to hold the bottom of the lake in place during wind and boat traffic. Responsibility, Lake Board

5. Too many seawalls on the shoreline of the lake. Responsibility, Lake Resident
6. Too many manicured lawns without buffer zones or vegetation strips between the lawn and water's edge to filter the nutrients. Responsibility, Lake Resident
7. Too much muck and sediment in the lake. Responsibility, Lake Board
8. Internal nutrient/phosphorus loading of the lake. Responsibility, Lake Board
9. Stop burning of leaves around the lake. This could add phosphorus to the lake. Responsibility, Lake Residents
10. Stop grass clippings from going into the lake. This adds phosphorus to the lake. Responsibility, Lake Resident
11. Too many carp. Responsibility, Lake Board & Lake Residents
12. Shallow lake, average depth, 6.6 feet.
13. Too much phosphorus entering Hess Lake from many sources & generating Algae blooms, with one Harmful Algae Bloom reported in 2021. Lake Board/Residents

Let's all work together to improve our lake.

If you have any questions, give me call or send me an email.

Take Care & Stay Safe,

Bob Ripstra, Hess Lake Summer Resident
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Note: I do not represent the Hess Lake Improvement Board or the Hess Lake Improvement Association