

HEALTH OF HIGGINS LAKE NEWSLETTER

www.HOH-lake.org



Septic Committee Update

The Septic Committee, a sub-committee of HOHL (Health of Higgins Lake), currently includes nine volunteers and two township officials. Our members bring diverse expertise from both public and private sectors, including wastewater management, water quality, environmental science, and engaged citizens from the surrounding community.



THE HEALTH OF
HIGGINS LAKE

PROTECTING OUR WATERS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

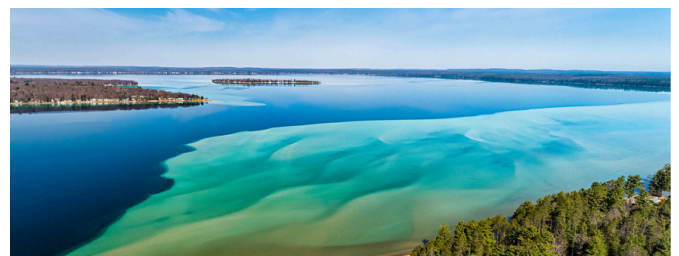
AUGUST 2025

Mission

To support HOHL by:

- researching best practices
- collaborating with experts and officials
- making informed recommendations to the HOHL Steering Committee and advising Gerrish Township

***Our guiding theme is -
Educate, Evaluate, then
Execute.***



SepticSmart 2025: Septic Systems and the Environment Webinar

September 15, 9-10AM EST

For more information, visit epa.gov/septic

Educate

Key actions:




- Informational videos
- Educational articles
- Seminar opportunities
- Maintenance tips

Maintaining Your Septic System Saves You Money...

Pumping fees of \$250 to \$350 every 3-4 years is a bargain compared to replacing a malfunctioning system at \$3,000 to \$7,000
www.epa.gov/septicmart

Stay Informed & Get Involved

We encourage you to stay engaged, share your expertise, or simply follow along:

-  Website: HOH-lake.org
-  Facebook: Health of Higgins Lake
-  Contact: Jim Ostling at trusteel@gerrishtownship.org

Together, we're working toward a sustainable future
— one step at a time

Health of Higgins Lake



Evaluate

Members are partnering with the Central Michigan District Health Department to digitize well and septic records into the FetchGIS system. This initiative will enable us to assess the condition of septic systems in Gerrish Township.

Key actions:

- Collaborate with local contractors and inspectors to gather insights and recommendations
- Review and update inspector contact lists
- Develop a standardized inspection checklist to guide assessments and updates to the Health Department

Execute

After education and evaluation, recommendations will be drafted.

Guided by:

- Verified inspection data
- Best practices in septic management
- Consideration of environmental and public health impacts